

# STARS AND STRIPES®

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## Inside

# Army recruitment fraud cost US millions

By JON HARPER  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Army is conducting an investigation into large-scale fraud tied to an Army recruitment program, Sen. Claire McCaskill, D-Mo., the head of the Senate Subcommittee on Financial and Contracting Oversight, disclosed

Monday, a day before she held a hearing on the scandal.

Investigators have found that \$29 million in taxpayer money has been lost to fraud, but that number could increase to nearly \$100 million by the time the probe is over, Maj. Gen. David Quantock, the Commanding General of U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command, told lawmakers

at the hearing Tuesday.

The Recruiting Assistance Program began in 2005 at a time when the Army National Guard was struggling to meet its recruitment goals as violence in Iraq escalated. The program was created to provide financial incentives to National Guard members not on active duty, retirees and other civilians to

act as informal recruiters by encouraging family, friends and other acquaintances to join the National Guard.

These so-called "recruiting assistants" would refer potential enlistees to an Army recruiter, and if the person signed up, the recruiting assistant received a \$2,000 to \$7,500 reward.

**SEE RECRUIT ON PAGE 2**

## FACES

Leno says no return to late night after leaving 'Tonight'

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## MILITARY

Navy probes cheating allegations on nuclear reactor training tests

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## AFGHANISTAN

Analysis: Did Karzai hurt US relations by meeting with Taliban?

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# GET IN THE GAMES



DNITRY LOVETSKY/AP

Hungarian Milan Szabo passes by the Olympic rings as he trains at the cross-country center of the 2014 Winter Olympics in Krasnaya Polyana, Russia, on Tuesday. Cross-country skiing has been an Olympics fixture since the 1924 Chamonix Games.

## MILITARY

Navy eyes changes to promotions standards for petty officer posts

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# Perception outweighs ability as Chinese build blue-water fleet

By SETH ROBSON  
Stars and Stripes

Chinese aircraft carriers won't be able to compete with the combat power of the U.S. Navy anytime soon, but experts say that won't be obvious to many people when the great ships start to exercise, make port calls and respond to natural disasters in the Pacific.

As the largest communist country and one of the most technologically advanced countries in the world, China is dead set on flexing its military muscle.

For decades, the U.S. Navy has controlled the world's waterways, in both size and strength. But China appears to be preparing to challenge U.S. supremacy by accelerating the construction of

**ANALYSIS** a second aircraft carrier. Plans for several more carriers — including one being built at a shipyard in the coastal city of Dalian — were announced by a senior Chinese official in January.

China launched its first aircraft carrier — the 74,406-ton Liaoning — just two years ago.

**SEE FLEET ON PAGE 6**



AP

After launching its first aircraft carrier, above, two years ago, China appears to be bolstering its fleet, with plans for several more carriers in the works.

## QUOTE OF THE DAY

**"He is playing with fire, because the mood in Washington and other capitals is increasingly frustrated."**

— Michael Keating, a former U.N. deputy envoy to Afghanistan, on recent actions by Afghan President Hamid Karzai

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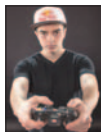
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## COMING SOON

### Video games

21-year-old makes a living from gaming



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## MILITARY

# Recruit: Army to probe all who received RAP funds

### FROM FRONT PAGE

Similar programs were later adopted by the Army Reserve and the active-duty Army to boost their recruitment numbers.

The program appeared to be effective. The Guard began meeting recruitment goals, and during the years that the RAP was in place, almost 40 percent of Army Guard recruits enlisted through the program.

It was later revealed that Army recruiters, recruiting assistants and other Army personnel were claiming to have recruited people that were already going to enlist or had already enlisted.

There were cases where school principals would supply personally identifiable information about their students who were enlisting in order to claim false credit for recruiting them and collect the bonus, according to Quantock.

Some recruiters were involved in kickback schemes where they would claim that a recruit who had enlisted was referred to them

by a recruiting assistant. The recruiter would then split the bonus money with someone claiming to be the recruiting assistant.

The first indication that something was amiss came in 2007 when Docupak, the contractor administering the Guard program, reported about a dozen cases of potential fraud to the Army Criminal Investigative Division. It took four years for the Army to realize that the fraud was a widespread problem because a relatively small number of fraud cases were uncovered until 2010 when the number expanded, Quantock told lawmakers.

After the probe widened in 2011 and Army investigations discovered many instances of fraud, Secretary of the Army John McHugh in February 2012 terminated the programs, according to Army spokesman George Wright. McHugh also directed a comprehensive investigation by multiple Army investigative agencies to determine the scope

of the problem and identify the people involved.

In 2011, Army investigators determined that more than 1,200 Army recruiters were suspected of fraud, as well as more than 2,000 recruiter assistants. All 106,364 individuals who received money from RAP will be investigated by the Army by the time the probe is finished in 2016, according to Lt. Gen. William Grisoli, the director of the Army Staff.

"While these combined efforts are ongoing, the results have confirmed a substantial number of cases of fraud and program abuse. These cases will be handled through criminal, Uniform Code of Military Justice or administrative procedures as warranted," Wright said in an email.

Some people reaped huge amounts of money from their fraudulent schemes. Five individuals illegally collected nearly \$1 million combined, according to Quantock.

Thus far, 104 criminal cases

have been adjudicated and 16 people have been imprisoned.

No senior leaders have been jailed or lost any of their benefits, according to Quantock. One senior National Guard leader who fraudulently received \$7,500 was not prosecuted because his case would have exceeded the statute of limitations by the time it would have gone to trial.

The Army will try to recoup as much taxpayer money as possible, Grisoli said.

Enlisted recruiters aren't the only ones suspected of wrongdoing. More than 200 officers are under investigation, including two generals, dozens of colonels, and more than 100 junior officers, according to the subcommittee.

"We need to hold our senior leaders accountable, more accountable than anyone else," Quantock said.

harper.jon@stripes.com

Twitter: @JHarperStripes



TIM CONERFORD/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

## Navy probes alleged nuclear test cheating

WASHINGTON — The Navy is investigating alleged cheating on tests by senior enlisted sailors training on naval nuclear reactors at Charleston, S.C., officials said Tuesday.

The Naval Criminal Investigative Service is conducting the probe.

The allegations involve alleged cheating on tests related to the nuclear reactors that provide propulsion for Navy sub-marines and aircraft carriers. It does not involve naval nuclear weapons and thus is not directly comparable to the Air Force's investigation of alleged cheating by officers who operate land-based nuclear missiles.

The officials revealed the probe on condition of anonymity because it has not been publicly announced.

At this stage of the investigation, approximately a dozen sailors are believed to be involved in the alleged cheating, although the investigation is still active and has not reached final conclusions, the officials said.

From The Associated Press

## Scraping to tell the torpedo's story

Claudia Chemello, a contractor hired by the Naval History and Heritage Command Underwater Archeology Branch, scrapes away sediment that collected on a torpedo's depth gauge as she searches for a way to access the gauge's compartment. More than 140 pounds of sediment was found inside. The sediment will help NHHHC tell the story of the torpedo that was lost from the 19th-century battleship USS Iowa (BB 4) during a training mission and found by a dolphin in the U.S. Navy Marine Mammal Program off the coast of San Diego last year.

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## MILITARY

# Navy to overhaul standards for petty officer promotion

By ERIK SLAVIN

Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — The Navy is making several changes to its advancement system for petty officers, including a formula that would add greater weight to performance evaluations and less to advancement tests.

The changes are part of a long-term, phased approach that could change the promotion quotas for the Navy's many job ratings, Chief of Naval Personnel Vice Adm. Bill Moran wrote in a post on the Navy Times' Facebook page.

"The majority of you seem to like greater weight added to performance — make the evals count more, make it less about who can pass the test or who hangs around long enough," Moran said. "In general, I agree with you."

Currently, for sailors vying for E-4 and E-5 pay grades, the next-level exam equals 37 percent and evaluations equal 42 percent of the total promotion score. For

sailors aiming for E-6, the test equals 33 percent and the evaluations equal 47.5 percent of their promotion score.

The new formula, which could be introduced as early as the autumn test cycle, would minimize the importance of testing and increase the weight of evaluations even more, though exact figures have not been determined, according to the Navy Times.

Multiple sailors who spoke with Stars and Stripes agreed with the changes, though some argued that the Navy's evaluation system was subject to manipulation, and therefore, less indicative of a sailor's abilities than other measures.

Seaman William McMillin said Tuesday that the changes, in particular at the E-6 level, should have been made a long time ago. Giving more weight to evaluations puts more focus on management ability at that level, he said.

"There are some great chiefs and first classes, but there are also a lot who don't know how to

lead," McMillin said.

Petty Officer 2nd Class Guseila Quezada liked the idea of evaluation-focused promotions because of her own record, "but I've heard horror stories," she said.

"I've been fortunate enough to have good leadership, so I've had good [evaluations]," she said.

Those who disagreed with the greater emphasis on evaluations said it takes value away from testing — which is objective — and gives greater authority to raters and their potential biases.

"Evals aren't rated fairly," said Petty Officer 2nd Class Felicia Oxendine. "You could have a guy who works hard and gets a good eval — and another guy who has the right connections and it (the evaluation) makes him look like a superstar when he's not. It should be based on your knowledge."

However, Oxendine liked another proposed change to the system that could mean fewer seniority-based promotions.

Sailors who pass tests but don't get promoted accrue "passed, not



LIAM KENNEDY/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

**Petty Officer 2nd Class David Daub weatherizes an antenna cable on the USS George Washington at Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan, on Jan. 31. According to the Navy's personnel chief, the service will make some changes to its advancement system for petty officers.**

advanced" points, or PNAs. Currently, those points are awarded to the top 75 percent of competitors — meaning that more sailors who are repeatedly passed over eventually get promoted.

Navy officials are considering awarding those points to only the top 25 percent of passed-over sailors. The change could mean more

promotions for better-performing sailors with less service time.

Under the current system, "some people just advance because of [PNAs] when they don't really deserve it," Oxendine said.

Stars and Stripes reporter Trevor Andersen contributed to this report. slavin.eric@stripes.com  
Twitter: @eslavin\_strips

# Site work begins for Landstuhl hospital replacement

By MATT MILLHAM

Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — After a delay of more than a year, the first tangible step has been taken toward replacing the Army's aging Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany.

Workers on Monday began cutting trees at the site chosen for the new hospital, an unused ammunition storage area where hundreds of dilapidated Cold War-era bunkers sit nestled in the forest near Ramstein Air Base.

Though the building phase isn't expected to begin for two more years, the clearing of the site alone appeared to offer some relief to German and American officials and engineers, whose plans to start cutting trees in fall 2012 were thwarted, first by a lawsuit and then by a lengthy environmental review.

"This is a real milestone," Mark Ray, a spokesman for U.S. Army Europe, said Tuesday at the site, a back corner of the Army's Rhine Ordnance Barracks. "We don't necessarily consider it the beginning of construction, but it is a major milestone in terms of moving the project forward and ensuring that we will build it."

Christoph Strohschneider, head of the German federal building directorate that is overseeing the project, said major site work is required before construction can start on the new hospital, for which Congress has approved \$990 million.

As many as 200 of the rein-



MATT MILLHAM/Stars and Stripes

**Fences to protect ant hills are among the environmental measures taken to protect wildlife at Rhine Ordnance Barracks in Kaiserslautern, Germany, where the groundwork for a new \$990 million military hospital got underway on Monday. The sign reads: "Ant Hill. Species protection. Do not destroy."**

forced concrete ammunition bunkers covering the site will have to be demolished, and huge amounts of earth have to be moved, Strohschneider said. Workers will then have to install utility lines and build roads.

Construction of the hospital building should begin in 2016 if there aren't any unforeseen delays, Strohschneider said. "and, hopefully, we will finish in 2021."

The current projection calls for the building to be fully occupied and in use sometime in 2022, Ray said.

Strohschneider and Army officials said the \$990 million price tag is a hard cap that they can't go over. Another large-scale project, the Kaiserslautern Military Community Center across the street at Ramstein Air Base, was plagued by delays and cost overruns that

officials hope to avoid with the new hospital.

German officials and the Army Corps of Engineers, which is overseeing the contract for the construction of the as-yet unnamed hospital, said there are mechanisms in place to ensure they don't go over budget this time.

"If parts of the project end up costing more" than anticipat-

ed, Ray said, other parts of the project may be scaled back or eliminated.

The Army Corps of Engineers is planning for a hospital with 120 exam rooms, 68 beds and nine operating theaters, though those plans could change.

The hospital's design is at most a fifth complete, according to Army officials. Strohschneider's building directorate is responsible for overseeing the design as well as the build.

Jürgen Reincke, a spokesman for an environmental group that sought to halt the project after a key environmental requirement was waived, said his group was not entirely happy with the beginning of tree clearing, but still considered his organization's efforts a victory.

Reincke's Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Union successfully sued to reinstate a public review process that forced German authorities to take a deeper look at the hospital's environmental impact. That review resulted in additional measures to protect wildlife.

In all, Ray said, the U.S. will spend about \$16 million to mitigate the project's effects on the environment.

"At the bottom line, it was a compromise," Reincke said. "And, as in any compromise, it is a give and take."

Reporter Marcus Kloeckner contributed to this report. millham.matt@stripes.com  
Twitter: @mattmillham



## MILITARY

# Did Karzai pay price by engaging Taliban?

By JOSH SMITH  
Stars and Stripes

**KABUL** — Officials in Afghan President Hamid Karzai's government have been holding secret talks with the Taliban over the past few months, according to media reports.

**ANALYSIS** But, analysts say, rather than furthering the peace process, those contacts have contributed to the souring of relations with Afghanistan's international backers.

Last month, The Associated Press reported that at least two ministers in Karzai's government traveled to the United Arab Emirates to meet with Taliban representatives. A Taliban official told the news agency those talks went "nowhere."

The New York Times reported Monday that Karzai's backdoor contacts with the Taliban — which still have not borne fruit — may help explain policies and stances Karzai has taken that have frustrated the U.S., including his refusal to sign a bilateral security agreement that is to set the terms for a small training and advisory force to remain in Afghanistan after all combat troops withdraw at the end of this year.

Karzai's standing in Washington has withered as the Afghan president has leveled accusations against the U.S. Last month, he suggested Washington was behind a deadly suicide attack on a Kabul restaurant claimed by the Taliban in which 21 people, including 13 foreigners — three of

them Americans — were killed. More recently, his administration used misleading photos to accuse American troops of killing civilians. That has only poured salt in wounds opened by his refusal to sign the security agreement.

"He is playing with fire, because the mood in Washington and other capitals is increasingly frustrated," said Michael Keating, a former United Nations deputy envoy to Afghanistan and now a senior consulting fellow with the London-based Chatham House. "You can explain why he's doing it, but what he's doing is potentially very damaging."

That the Afghan government wants to talk to the Taliban is not what ranks Western leaders, said Graeme Smith, a senior analyst with the International Crisis Group.

"The Americans want the Afghan government to negotiate a peace deal," Smith said. "The Americans really are urgently trying to reach a political solution."

The West is concerned that Karzai has unrealistic expectations that a peace deal could be reached with the Taliban that would make the bilateral security agreement with the U.S. unnecessary.

"Karzai wanting to negotiate is not what's annoying Washington," Smith said. "It's the idea that a peace deal could be reached in time to make a BSA unnecessary."

Karzai, in refusing to sign the agreement, has insisted that

the United States should restart peace talks with the insurgents or withdraw all forces. American military officials are pushing for at least 10,000 troops to remain after the end of 2014 to provide training and other assistance.

Without the bilateral agreement, all international forces may depart as NATO has said the U.S.-Afghan agreement is also key to it establishing a follow-on training force in Afghanistan.

The Taliban have continuously insisted that all U.S. and NATO forces — whom they regard as foreign occupiers — must leave the country before they consider participating in the political process. The insurgents have vowed to continue fighting if any foreign advisers remain in Afghanistan after the withdrawal of coalition combat troops.

It was Karzai himself who torpedoed peace talks set up by international diplomats last summer. The United States canceled preliminary talks in Qatar after Karzai objected to the Taliban's new office there, which displayed the group's white flag and featured signs referring to the "Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan," the name the Taliban used when they ruled from Kabul.

Analysts say many of Karzai's frustrations are understandable given his years of serving as president of a country with a massive international military and political presence.

"Karzai has been treated like the ruler of a colonialized country for many years," said Thomas

Ruttig, co-director of the Kabul-based Afghanistan Analysts Network. "So some of his frustration about the U.S. also can be explained, particularly when it comes to talking to the Taliban, through Qatar, where he has been excluded from the beginning while everyone had told him he was in the lead."

Having ruled Afghanistan since the United States and its Afghan allies toppled the Taliban in 2001, Karzai is barred from seeking a third term as president. Keating says the Afghan president is seeking to maintain his influence while defining his legacy.

"One of the reasons why Karzai has not signed the BSA is that he wants to remain very, very relevant until the end of his term," Keating said. "He is trying to be known as the great patriot, rather than the guy who cut a deal with the foreigners and open himself up to views that he favors foreigners over Afghans."

Informal and formal contact with factions of the Taliban, or those claiming to represent the Taliban, have been going on for years without results, Ruttig said, and little indicates that will change soon.

"Karzai seems to hope that at least an opening of such a channel is realistic before he leaves office," Ruttig said. "Of course, it is contradictory — the BSA and the Taliban demanding the withdrawal of all foreign soldiers. Maybe Karzai hopes he can persuade the Taliban [to accept] some presence in exchange for a part in

running the country — unrealistic as this seems to be."

The Taliban and related insurgent groups have many factions and, so far, none of the contacts that have been reported with the Afghan government has been the formal, authorized negotiations that would be needed for an actual peace deal, Keating said.

"My instinct is that the Taliban do not really want to engage with an outgoing government, for all the obvious reasons," he said. "There is nothing that I have read that adds up to a real process. What we're talking about is conversations, some at high levels, but a peace deal requires a semi-structured process."

Smith agreed that there are few signs that the Taliban will budge.

"If Karzai is holding up the BSA in hopes of a last-second breakthrough in talks with the insurgency, it's not going to happen," he said. "I can understand why he would want to try, because it's necessary to try. But the reality is, the insurgents are optimistic as they watch tens of thousands of international troops leave."

Smith noted that insurgent attacks increased in 2013 compared with the previous year, indicating the Taliban and other groups aren't easing off.

"This is not a war that shows any signs of cooling down," he said.

smith.josh@stripes.com  
twitter: @joshsmith



ALEX FLYNN/Courtesy of the U.S. Army

Capt. Joe Beale, with the 57th Expeditionary Signal Battalion, serving at Kandahar Air Field, Afghanistan, cheers during the Super Bowl on Sunday. A new report says U.S. soldiers had higher morale and suffered fewer mental health problems in Afghanistan last year.

## Army: GI morale up in Afghanistan

By PAULINE JELINEK  
The Associated Press

U.S. soldiers had higher morale and suffered fewer mental health problems in Afghanistan last year as they handed off more duties to Afghans and saw less combat themselves, according to a report released Monday.

The Army report was drawn from a battlefield survey and interviews in June and July. It was the ninth time since the practice started in 2003 in Iraq that the service had sent a team of mental health experts to the field of war to measure soldier mental health and assess available care.

The report says rates of soldiers with depression, anxiety and acute stress — as well as tendencies toward suicide — were lower

than in the most recent previous surveys.

In a survey of nearly 900 soldiers, 20.2 percent said last year that their morale was high or very high, compared with 14.7 percent in 2012 and 16.3 percent in 2010.

During those earlier survey years, there were more U.S. troops in Afghanistan — 100,000 at the height of the surge that started in 2010.

Now, there are about 34,000 U.S. troops.

"The differences in individual morale in 2013 relative to 2010 and 2012 may reflect differences in combat experiences during those 2 years ... years with the highest combat experience levels" of the war, said the report by the office of the Army surgeon general and command surgeons

at U.S. Central Command and in the Afghanistan war zone.

Last year, the U.S.-led international forces in Afghanistan suffered the lowest number of casualties in the past six years, while Afghan security forces saw their casualties mount as they took the lead in the 12-year war against the Taliban. According to an Associated Press tally, U.S. deaths fell to 118 from 297 in 2012, while casualties among Afghan army and police rose to 2,767, up from 1,870 the year before.

The report also found that the number of surveyed soldiers who thought they would be better off dead or had considered hurting themselves was 8.5 percent last year compared with 9 percent in 2012 and 13 percent in 2010.

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## MILITARY

# Bill would set in-state tuition rates for vets

By KEVIN FREKING  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The House overwhelmingly passed legislation Monday that would require public universities around the country to charge veterans in-state tuition rates or face financial penalty.

Congress intended for veterans from the Iraq and Afghanistan era to go to college for free at the public school of their choice. For most, that's the case.

But, on occasion, veterans end up living in a new state once their service has ended. Then, they find that the federal government's reimbursement to colleges won't fully cover the higher tuition rates that generally apply to students who come in from out of state.

"There are many veterans through no fault of their own who are forced to pay exorbitant tuition rates to schools simply because of the transit nature of their military service," said Rep. Jeff Miller, the Republican chairman of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs.

About half the states already have waivers in place designed to attract veterans to attend their public universities. Lawmakers and veterans groups are pushing for a national approach.

Budget scorekeepers estimate the provision would affect about 3,800 veterans initially and save the federal government about \$139 million over the next decade. The bill passed by a vote of 390-0.

Some have complained that Congress is putting in place an-

other unfunded federal mandate. When the bill came up before a congressional subcommittee last year, the American Association of State Colleges and Universities said that establishing tuition policy is a clear state right. "This bill screams of government overreach," the association said at the time.

The arguments from veterans groups won out. The groups said military veterans are the only Americans who sometimes cannot physically be present in a state long enough to satisfy residency requirements simply because they were serving their country.

In all, 20 states already have laws designed to help veterans get the in-state rate. Another 12 have legislation pending. Eight more have individual schools or school systems that provide veterans with waivers so they can get the in-state tuition rate, according to Student Veterans of America, an advocacy group.

The bill stipulates that the in-state tuition requirement would apply only to veterans who enroll within three years of leaving the service.

The requirement has broad support in the Senate as well, but it's included in much broader veterans legislation that some Republicans say may be too sweeping and expensive.

The House bill passed Monday contains other provisions that affect the Department of Veterans Affairs, including eliminating performance bonuses for the department's senior executive staff through 2018.

## US military, Italy close to deal on mail dispute

NAPLES, Italy — Italian customs agents in Rome have released about two dozen packages they were holding from the U.S. military mail system as both sides near an agreement on a customs dispute, a spokeswoman at the U.S. Navy base in Naples said on Monday.

Recipients of the packages, which were bound for bases in Naples and Sigonella, Sicily, will not have to pay the fees for which they were being held, said the spokeswoman, Lt. Liza Dougherty.

Italian customs officials held the packages last month after announcing that all incoming parcels bound for the U.S. military mail system would be subject to Italian taxes and customs duties. They stopped intercepting packages when Navy representatives and U.S. Embassy officials dis-

puted the new fees and both sides began meeting for discussions. U.S. officials say long-standing basing agreements between the countries prohibit the taxes, while Italian officials say they have the right to levy the fees.

Release of the packages is seen as a positive step toward a resolution, which is believed to be near, Dougherty said.

## Air Force reservist faces child porn charges

A U.S. Air Force Reserve major was arrested Thursday at Fort McNair in Washington and charged with distribution of child pornography, according to D.C. police.

David Riley, 37, of Tampa, Fla., appeared in U.S. District Court on Friday and was ordered detained until a preliminary hearing, set for Feb. 12.

D.C. police spokesman Araz



Courtesy of Lockheed Martin

On Thursday, Lockheed Martin celebrated the 40th anniversary of the first flight of its F-16 Fighting Falcon, seen here at the Australian International Airshow in February last year.

# Lockheed's F-16 still strong at 40

By YAMIL BERARD

Fort Worth (Texas) Star-Telegram

FORT WORTH, Texas — In 1975, the once-bustling mile-long bomber plant then operated by General Dynamics had the feel of a ghost town. Just under 3,000 employees worked at the plant, and a single F-111 attack plane sat in the corner.

"This looked like a tomb, this facility," said Ralph Heath, a design engineer. "Immediately on the right of the entrance to the factory was a plywood wall, and everything to the north of that was dark. It was shut down."

After wars in Vietnam and Korea, the Pentagon had lost interest in pricey jets like the F-15. So Fort Worth aerospace developers and production engineers developed a single-engine, lightweight fighter for the government at a low cost, said Heath, who would later become president of Lockheed Martin Aeronautics, which took over the plant in 1992.

Heath and others were told the initial contract for about 1,000 jets would last four years. Four decades later, Lockheed Martin has pumped out more than 4,540 F-16s for customers in more than 24 countries.

On Thursday, the company celebrated the 40th anniversary of the jet's first flight on Feb. 2, 1974.

Though the F-16 has been overtaken in size and importance by the F-35 joint strike fighter program, Lockheed continues to turn out about one F-16 a month for foreign buyers such as Iraq. About 400 workers still labor on the F-16 line, which has enough orders to remain open until at least 2017.

Test pilot Phil Oestricher, who manned the first flight of the F-16 at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., said the plane answered the Pentagon's call for an agile fighter.

"Basically, they were looking for a dogfighting type of airplane in the traditional sense of it," said the retired pilot, 82.

Over time, the plane evolved into a multitool, all-weather airplane, said Dain Hancock, 72, a propulsion engineer who would become a long-time president of Lockheed Martin Aeronautics.

"It had good bones," Hancock

said. "It had a structure capability that allowed it to grow without a lot of changes in its structure, such as the capability to carry large loads, a high thrust-to-weight ratio."

Over the decades, the plane's performance was beefed up with upgrades to avionics and weapons systems. Many foreign nations are now seeking to outfit their existing fleets of F-16s with the latest electronics.

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From staff and wire reports

## PACIFIC

The Liaoning, China's first aircraft carrier, is shown anchored in the northern port in Qingdao in February 2013.

WU DENGFENG, XINHUA NEWS AGENCY/AP



## Fleet: Expert says China still decades behind US in terms of naval parity

FROM FRONT PAGE

The plans don't come as a surprise to U.S. military commanders. In a report to Congress last year, the Department of Defense predicted: "China ... will likely build multiple aircraft carriers over the next decade. The first Chinese-built carrier will likely be operational sometime in the second half of this decade."

U.S. naval commanders, who have been ordered to move the bulk of their fleet to the Pacific theater, say it's clear that China is building a "blue-water navy," capable of sustained operations across oceans and able to project power far from home.

While the U.S. Pacific Command has not commented directly on the latest reports about the Chinese carrier program, its commander, Adm. Samuel Locklear, addressed China's weapons systems during a Jan. 23 media briefing.

"Our relative dominance in ... technologies and ... weapons systems will have diminished over time," he said. "That's not something to be afraid of; it's just to be pragmatic about it."

Some naval experts say the U.S. must keep an eye on China's naval buildup, but most don't think Chinese aircraft carriers will be able to compete with the U.S. behemoths like the Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan-bound USS Ronald Reagan anytime soon.

"Building it is the easiest part; operating carrier task forces is much tougher," Ralph Cossa, of the Center for Strategic and International Studies, said.

An effective aircraft carrier isn't just a ship, said Mark Jacobson, a fellow at The German Marshall Fund of the United States. "It's a weapons system that includes planes that can take off from a carrier and pilots who can

### China asserting 'manifest destiny'?

WASHINGTON — The chief of U.S. intelligence says China's aggressive pursuit of territorial claims in the seas of East Asia is driven by a sense of historical destiny and is causing great concern among countries in the region.

Director of National Intelligence James Clapper said China has pursued a very impressive military modernization that is designed to address America's own military strengths.

Clapper was responding to a question on China's recent actions in the East and South China seas posed at a House Intelligence Committee hearing Tuesday on worldwide threats.

He said China has been greatly concerned by the increased U.S. attention to Asia, viewing it as an attempt at containment.

Clapper said China has been "quite aggressive in asserting what they see as their manifest destiny."

From The Associated Press

execute one of the most difficult maneuvers in aviation," which is landing on a deck at sea.

Michael O'Hanlon, of The Brookings Institution, said it's clear that the Chinese can build numerous carriers but added, "The Chinese remain 20 years behind the U.S. in any realistic pursuit of naval parity."

Jan Van Tol, a retired U.S. Navy captain who is a senior fellow at the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments in

Washington, said more Chinese carriers will have an impact even if they are far less capable than U.S. ships.

"Military professionals will know the difference, but other important audiences may not, and could credit ... ships with having far more capability and combat utility than they actually would have in combat," he said.

The Chinese might be able to show that they can compete with America by conducting exercises, making port visits and providing humanitarian assistance and disaster relief with ships that look like carriers, even if they lack the capabilities of U.S. ships, he said.

Cossa said people should be aware of the "Wizard of Oz" effect.

"China is casting a big shadow that is disproportionate to its actual strength," he said, adding that the statement applied to both economic and military power.

"A single aircraft carrier, with limited range aircraft and little blue water experience, hardly makes China a major sea power, but people are already reacting to the shadow rather than the little guy behind the screen," he said.

### Start of a race?

It's clear that Chinese military build-up is unsettling to its neighbors.

Last month, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe called China's recent military spending a "provocation."

Speaking at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, Abe compared the relationship between Japan and China to that of Germany and Britain before World War I.

In the days before the invention of the aircraft carrier, British King George V and Kaiser Wilhelm II, of Germany — yacht rac-

ers and cousins — were engaged in a head-to-head battle to build "Dreadnoughts," the biggest and most powerful battleships the world had known.

In 1906, the newly built HMS Dreadnought was so much bigger, faster and more powerful than its predecessors that it made all other ships obsolete, according to historian Robert K. Massie, who wrote "Dreadnought — Britain, Germany, and the Coming of the Great War."

When the Germans began building their own Dreadnoughts that same year, an arms race had been launched.

But soon, cuts to the British defense budget limited the Royal Navy's ability to grow its Dreadnought fleet, and the Germans began a breakneck construction program, Massie wrote in the book.

In less than a decade, Germany launched its massive fleet in the North Sea. World War I began shortly thereafter.

Jacobson said there's a chance that an aircraft carrier arms race could play out between the U.S. and China, but that competition to develop other weapons systems is more likely.

"Are we looking at the 21st-century version of the Dreadnought phenomenon? Perhaps," he said.

"There might be those who think [there will be] a symmetrical back and forth where whoever has the most carriers wins."

However, Jacobson said it's possible that new weapons, such as advanced cruise missiles, could limit carriers' effectiveness.

It makes more sense for military planners to take a more diverse approach to defense acquisitions, he said.

"If you take the route of trying to build more than the other person, that is going to limit what you can do in other areas," he said. "I think the Chinese would be better served to spend more on the cyber arena than they are in the aircraft carrier arena."

Even if the Chinese attempt to build more aircraft carriers than the U.S., defense experts don't believe that would force America to add to its fleet.

Van Tol said the U.S. should continue to demonstrate routine forward presence of naval forces and continued superiority in the overall military balance in Asia, as well as reassure allies that major reinforcement could be introduced in a timely fashion if required.

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## NATION

## Cybersecurity report blasts agencies' efforts

By CRAIG TIMBERG  
AND LISA REIN  
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The message broadcast in several states last winter was equal parts alarming and absurd: "Civil authorities in your area have reported that the bodies of the dead are rising from their graves and attacking the living. ... Do not attempt to approach or apprehend these bodies, as they are considered extremely dangerous."

The reported zombie invasion was not something out of TV's "The Walking Dead." It was the federal Emergency Alert System under control of hackers — who exploited weaknesses that are disturbingly common in many critical systems throughout government, according to a Senate cybersecurity report that was set for release Tuesday.

U.S. officials have warned for years that the prospect of a cyber-

attack is the top threat to the nation and show sharply increased spending for computer security. Yet the report by the Republican staff of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee says federal agencies are ill-prepared to defend networks against even modestly skilled hackers.

"As a taxpayer, I'm outraged," said Alan Pallier, who is research director at the SANS Institute, a cybersecurity education group, and reviewed a draft version of the report ahead of its official release. "We're spending all this money and getting so little impact for it."

The report draws on previous work by agency inspectors general and the Government Accountability Office to paint a broader picture of chronic dysfunction, citing repeated failures by federal officials to perform the inglorious work of information security. That includes installing

security patches, updating antivirus software, communicating on secure networks and requiring strong passwords. A common password on federal systems, the report found, is "password."

Obama administration officials quibbled with elements of the report but acknowledged that getting agencies to secure their systems against attack has been difficult.

"Almost every agency faces a cybersecurity challenge," said Michael Daniel, special assistant to the president on cybersecurity policy. "Some are farther along than others in driving awareness of it. It often depends on whether they've been in the crosshairs of a major cyberincident."

The report levels particularly tough criticism at the Department of Homeland Security, which helps oversee cybersecurity at other federal agencies. The report concluded that the department had failed even to update

essential software — "the basic security measure just about any American with a computer has performed."

"None of the other agencies want to listen to Homeland Security when they aren't taking care of their own systems," said Sen. Tom Coburn, R-Okla., who as the ranking minority member of the committee oversaw the development of the report. "They aren't even doing the simple stuff."

The underlying problem, said Coburn and several outside experts, is the failure of federal agencies to hire top-notch information technology workers, pay them enough and give them enough clout to enforce routine security practices.

"It's a low-status, often low-paid, high-stress position because people only notice systems administrators when something breaks," said Steven Bellovin, a Columbia University computer science professor and former

Federal Trade Commission technologist. "It becomes a very easy position to neglect."

Higher up the chain of command, agency directors are rarely held accountable for security failures because it is often unclear who is responsible, experts said. No penalties are mandated by law.

Other problems identified in the Senate report include:

■ In every year since 2008, the GAO has found roughly 100 weaknesses in the computer security practices of the Internal Revenue Service, which took an average of 55 days to patch critical system flaws once they were identified. It is supposed to take only three days to do so.

■ The Nuclear Regulatory Commission, which keeps data on the design and security of every nuclear reactor and waste facility in the country, "regularly experiences unauthorized disclosures of sensitive information."

## Feds want vehicles to warn each other of trouble ahead

By JOAN LOWY  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Your car might see a deadly crash coming even if you don't, the government says, indicating it will require automakers to equip new vehicles with technology that lets cars warn each other if they're plunging toward peril.

The action, still some years off, has "game-changing potential" to cut collisions, deaths and injuries, federal transportation officials said at a news conference Monday.

A radio signal would continually transmit a vehicle's position, heading, speed and other information. Cars and light trucks would receive the same information back from other cars, and a vehicle's computer would alert its driver to an impending collision. Alerts could be a flashing message, an audible warning, or a driver's seat that rumbles. Some systems might even automatically brake to avoid an accident if manufacturers choose to include that option.

Your car would "see" when another car or truck equipped with the same technology was about to run a red light, even if that vehicle was hidden around a corner. Your car would also know when a car several vehicles ahead in a line of traffic had made a sudden stop and alert you even before you saw brake lights. The technology works up to about 300 yards.

If communities choose to invest in the

technology, roadways and traffic lights could start talking to cars, too, sending warnings of traffic congestion or road hazards ahead in time for drivers to take a detour.

The technology is separate from automated safety features using sensors and radar that are already being built into some high-end vehicles today and which are seen as the basis for future self-driving cars. Government and industry officials see the two technologies as compatible. If continuous conversations between cars make driving safer, then self-driving cars will become safer as well.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, which has been working with automakers on the technology for the past decade, estimates vehicle-to-vehicle communications could prevent up to 80 percent of accidents that don't involve drunken drivers or mechanical failure.

Crashes involving a driver with a blood alcohol content of .08 or higher accounted for nearly a third of the 33,500 traffic fatalities in the U.S. in 2012, according to the safety agency.

The technology represents the start of a new era in automotive safety in which the focus is "to prevent crashes in the first place," as compared with previous efforts to ensure accidents are survivable, said David Friedman, the head of the agency.

No orders to automakers are imminent, officials said.

After an agency report, the public and

## Reviews boost number of exonerations in 2013

ST. LOUIS — A nationwide push by prosecutors and police to re-examine possible wrongful convictions contributed to a record number of exonerations in 2013, according to a report released Tuesday.

The National Registry of Exonerations said 87 people falsely

convicted of crimes were exonerated last year, four more than in 2009, the year with the next highest total.

The joint effort by the Northwestern University and University of Michigan law schools has documented more than 1,300 such cases in the U.S. since 1989 while also identifying another 1,100 "group exonerations" involving widespread police misconduct,

primarily related to planted drug and gun evidence.

The new report shows that nearly 40 percent of exonerations recorded in 2013 were either initiated by law enforcement or included police and prosecutors' cooperation.

One year earlier, nearly half of the exonerations involved such reviews.

From The Associated Press



A side mirror on a Ford Taurus displays a warning signal that can be seen by the driver during testing in 2012. Federal transportation officials are seeking to equip cars with technology to communicate with the driver and with each other to prevent crashes.

carmakers will have 90 days to comment, then regulators will begin drafting a proposal, and that process could take months to years. Transportation Secretary Anthony Poxs said it is his intention to issue the proposal before President Barack Obama leaves office.

"It will change driving as we know it over time," said Scott Belcher, president and CEO of the Intelligent Transportation Society of America. "Automobile makers will rethink how they design and construct cars because they will no longer be constructing cars to survive a crash, but building them to avoid a crash."

Government officials declined to give an estimate for how much the technology would increase the price of a new car, but the transportation society estimates it would cost about \$100 to \$200 per vehicle.

Automakers are enthusiastic about vehicle-to-vehicle technology but feel there are important technical, security and privacy questions that need to be worked out first, said Gloria Bergquist, vice president of the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers.

The technology "may well play a larger role in future road safety, but many pieces of a large puzzle still need to fit together," she said.

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## NATION



MEL EVANS/AP

New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie takes questions from callers during his "Ask the Governor" radio broadcast Monday. Christie addressed the traffic jam scandal during the program.

## Christie calls scrutiny of closures a 'gotcha' game

The Associated Press

TRENTON, N.J. — Gov. Chris Christie said he started asking staff members to get more details about traffic jams in the northern New Jersey town of Fort Lee last year soon after they were over and he heard they were a source of contention.

That's the account he gave Monday night on a radio show when he spoke publicly for the first time in more than three weeks about the political retribution scandal involving lane closures near the George Washington Bridge, which links New Jersey and New York City.

The gravity he now says he gave the issue last September stands in contrast to his account

on Dec. 2, when he laughed it off. "Unbeknownst to everybody, I was actually the guy out there ..." he said then. "I actually was the guy working the cones."

The scandal has engulfed Christie's administration and threatens to upend future political ambitions for the Republican governor and possible 2016 presidential candidate.

He came under a new round of scrutiny last week after the lawyer for a former Christie ally wrote a letter saying "evidence exists" that Christie knew about major traffic jams caused by closing lanes approaching the bridge in Fort Lee, a plot said to have been undertaken for political retribution. The lawyer for David Wildstein, who was Christie's No.

2 man at the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which runs the bridge, did not give any other details about the evidence.

Christie's office initially denied that he knew about the traffic problems until after they were over, pointing to several statements from the governor.

But on TownSquare Media's "Ask the Governor" on Monday, Christie acknowledged for the first time that he may have been aware of the closures at the time.

Christie said what he learned when is not important. He dismissed the scrutiny over that detail as "a game of gotcha."

"Nobody has said I knew about this before it happened, and I think that's the most important question," he said.

## FDA campaign seeks to deter youth smoking

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Food and Drug Administration is using ads that depict yellow teeth and wrinkled skin to show the nation's at-risk youth the costs associated with cigarette smoking.

The federal agency said Tuesday it is launching a \$115 million multimedia education campaign called "The Real Cost" that's aimed at stopping teenagers from smoking.

Advertisements will run in more than 200 markets throughout the U.S. for at least one year beginning Feb. 11. The campaign will include ads on TV stations such as MTV and print spots in magazines like Teen Vogue. It also will use social media.

"Our kids are the replacement customers for the addicted adult smokers who die or quit each day," said Mitch Zeller, the director of the FDA's Center for Tobacco Products. "And that's why we think it's so important to reach out to them — not to lecture them, not to throw statistics at them — but to reach them in a way that will get them to rethink their relationship with tobacco use."



FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION/AP

**A Food and Drug Administration ad campaign associates bad teeth with smoking.**

Zeller, who oversaw the anti-tobacco "Truth" campaign while working at the nonprofit American Legacy Foundation in the early 2000s, called the new campaign a "compelling, provocative and somewhat graphic way" of grabbing the attention of more young people open to, or who are already experimenting with, cigarettes.

## School Internet funds pledged

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Claiming progress in his campaign to get American schools wired for the future, President Barack Obama is announcing commitments from U.S. companies totaling about \$750 million to connect more students to high-speed Internet.

Apple is pledging \$100 million in iPads, computers and other tools. AT&T and Sprint are contributing free Internet service through their wireless networks. Verizon is pitching in up to \$100 million in cash and in-kind contributions. Microsoft is making Windows available at discounted

prices and offering 12 million free copies of Microsoft Office software.

Obama announced the commitments Tuesday at a middle school in Maryland.

Also in the pipeline is an additional \$2 billion that the Federal Communications Commission is setting aside from service fees over two years to connect another 20 million students to high-speed Internet.

The White House hopes the pledges will help fulfill a goal Obama set last summer to have 99 percent of students wired at high speeds within five years.



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## NATION

# Tech companies release data on spying operation

By STEPHEN BRAUN  
AND MICHAEL LIEDTKE  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Major technology firms have released new data on how often they are ordered to turn over customer information to the government for secret national security investigations, resulting in the collection of data on thousands of Americans.

That release came after the companies were freed by a recent legal deal with government lawyers.

The publications disclosed by Google, Microsoft, Yahoo, Facebook, LinkedIn and Tumblr provided expanded details and some vented criticism about the government's handling of customers' Internet data in counterterrorism and other intelligence-related probes. The figures from 2012 and 2013 showed that companies such as Google and Microsoft were compelled by the government to provide information on as many as 10,000 customer accounts in a six-month period. Yahoo complied with government requests for information on more than 40,000 accounts in the same period.

The companies earlier had provided limited information about government requests for data, but an agreement reached last week with the Obama administration allowed the firms to provide a broadened, though still circumscribed, set of figures to the public.

Seeking to reassure customers and business partners alarmed by revelations about the government's massive collection of Internet and computer data, the firms stressed

details indicating that only small numbers of their customers were targeted by authorities. Still, even those small numbers showed that thousands of Americans were affected by the government requests approved by judges of the secret Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court.

The data releases by the major tech companies offered a mix of dispassionate graphics, reassurances and protests, seeking to alleviate customer concerns about government spying while pressuring national security officials about the companies' constitutional concerns. The shifting tone in the releases showed the precarious course that major tech firms have had to navigate in recent months, caught between their public commitments to Internet freedom and their enforced roles as data providers to U.S. spy agencies.

In a company blog post, Microsoft General Counsel Brad Smith scolded the U.S. and allied governments for failing to renounce the reported mass interception of Internet data carried by communications cables.

Top lawyers and executives for major tech companies had raised alarms previously about data reports describing that hacking by U.S. and United Kingdom spy agencies and cited them during conversations with U.S. officials during President Barack Obama's internal review of planned changes to the government's spying operations.

Google and all the other companies denied that they gave any government unfettered access to their users' information.



Elliot

electric current to shock anyone who touches them.

"It appears that it did happen. ... He was not zapped with electricity, and he was not picked up by the motion sensors," prisons spokesman Russ Marlan said.

Marlan said late Monday that Michigan would immediately begin the extradition process. The LaPorte County Sheriff's

out exactly how Elliot was able to get out of the Michigan prison. Fences were equipped with motion sensors to alert guards.

The fences also carry electric current to shock anyone who touches them.

"It appears that it did happen. ... He was not zapped with electricity, and he was not picked up by the motion sensors," prisons spokesman Russ Marlan said.

Marlan said late Monday that Michigan would immediately begin the extradition process. The LaPorte County Sheriff's



CLIM MURRAY, THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER/AP

The fences of Crebilly Farm create a zig-zag pattern in the snow-covered fields in West Chester, Pa., on Monday as winter storms continued in the Northeast and Midwest.

## Winter storms continuing to hammer Northeast, Midwest

By KATHY MATHESON  
The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Just as the East Coast dug out from a canopy of wet, heavy snow that again shut schools and emptied workplaces, another hit was expected to sock the Midwest.

The National Weather Service said Monday's storm, which brought 8 inches of snow to New York City, 3 to 9 inches to the Philadelphia area and up to 9 inches to central New Jersey, will be followed by a new storm in the Midwest on Tuesday. The heaviest accumulations are expected in Kansas and Missouri.

The double whammy continues for the Northeast late Tuesday into early Wednesday when the storm brings up to a foot of snow

in northern Pennsylvania and 5 to 9 inches in Boston. The New York area could get 4 to 7 inches of snow followed by rain, freezing rain and sleet — possibly creating a messy morning commute.

Even though it's days away, the weather service said there's a chance of even more of the cold, white flakes beginning Saturday and continuing into Sunday on the East Coast. It could be a trifecta of foul weather.

"This winter has been a pretty amazing winter across a whole lot of the country," said Joseph T. Pajor, deputy director of the department of public works and utilities for the city of Wichita, Kansas, which was expected to get about 2 inches of snow overnight and another 6 inches on Tuesday.

On Monday, government offices, courts and schools were closed in parts of Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia; scattered power outages were reported throughout the region. Speed limits were reduced on many major highways.

At least two deaths and one serious injury were blamed on the storm. In western Kentucky, where the snow began falling Sunday, a 24-year-old man died that night when his car skidded into a snowplow. On Monday, a 73-year-old New York City man was fatally struck by a backhoe that was moving snow.

A 10-year-old girl was in serious condition after she was impaled by a metal rod while sledding north of Baltimore.

## Mich. escapee caught in Indiana

The Associated Press

IONIA, Mich. — A convicted killer who authorities say managed to evade guards and peel through two electrically charged fences to escape a Michigan prison was tripped up by transportation issues once on the outside.

Authorities allege that after losing the woman he abducted and ditching her Jeep in an Indiana town, Michael David Elliot made his way to another Indiana community, where he stole another vehicle. A sheriff's deputy quickly spotted the stolen Chevrolet Monte Carlo on Monday evening and chased it, leading to Elliot's capture.

No one was injured in the chase, and the abducted woman also wasn't hurt.

Authorities are now left to sort

Department said he's being charged there with motor vehicle theft and resisting law enforcement, but authorities didn't say if he would stay in Indiana to face those allegations.

Officials were stunned by the brazen escape Sunday night. Elliot, who had a record of good behavior during his 20 years in custody, wore a white kitchen uniform to evade security and blend in with snow at the Ionia Correctional Facility in western Michigan, authorities said.

"We had dog teams. We had a helicopter from the state police," said Michigan Corrections Department Director Dan Heyns. "The response was good, but he'd left the area by the time we were mobilized totally 100 percent. It didn't take him long to get down to Indiana."

## Police bust Craigslist theft ring

The Sacramento (Calif.) Bee

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — On June 20, as police detectives were on a stakeout in a rundown neighborhood north of downtown Oakland, Calif., a stretch limousine pulled up nearby and was flagged down by a man on foot.

The officers, who were there on an unrelated case, watched as two men approached the limo, one pulled a gun and the pair tried to rob the passenger, a woman from Colorado who had just flown in to sell a diamond ring she had offered for sale on Craigslist.

That marked the beginning of the end for an alleged ring of jewel thieves who concocted a scheme to rob sellers nationwide of large diamonds,

gold watches and other pricey baubles they had advertised on Craigslist, according to newly unsealed documents filed in federal courthouses in Sacramento and Oakland.

Michael Anthony Martin, is being held in the Sacramento County jail on a charge of being a felon in possession of a firearm. Keegan Leecodi Cotton Jr., Jaedon Evans and Rafael Davis — were named in a criminal complaint filed Jan. 21 in Oakland charging them with conspiracy to commit robbery, attempted robbery affecting interstate commerce and aiding and abetting.

The alleged ringling remains in prison serving a sentence for robbery in a case that the FBI says is similar to the Craigslist caper.



## WORLD

# Panel: Japan should ease collective defense ban

By MARI YAMAGUCHI

The Associated Press

TOKYO — A government panel will urge Japan to allow its military to help allies that come under attack, in a major reversal of the country's ban on collective defense under its pacifist constitution.

The panel on Tuesday discussed ways that Japan can improve its defense capability and said it will present its near-final draft recommendation in coming weeks.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe wants Japan to play a greater role in international peacekeeping and step up its defense posture, citing potential military threats from China and North Korea.

The 14-member panel, headed by former Ambassador to the U.S. Shunji Yanai, said the revision is possible if the government alters its current interpretation of the war-renouncing constitution. Formal constitutional change involves high hurdles, though Abe eventually hopes to achieve that.

The constitution, written under U.S. direction after World War II, says the Japanese people "forever renounce war as a sovereign right of the nation" and that "land, sea and air forces, as well as other war potential, will never be maintained." The government has interpreted those clauses as meaning that Japan cannot possess offensive military weapons such as ICBMs or long-range strategic bombers.

Abe and other supporters of the change believe that restric-

tions should be removed from the military, and that Japan's current self-defense-only policy is inadequate as the region's security environment becomes more challenging. They say there may be instances in which Japanese troops have to fight for allies during international peacekeeping missions, even when Japan is not attacked directly.

Japan's peacekeeping missions have been limited to noncombat roles because of its pacifist rules, and a change would allow its

troops to do more.

The draft report will also urge Japan to relax its restrictions on arms exports, participate more actively in U.N.-led security operations, and prepare a legal framework for its military to counter intrusions on remote Japanese-held islands, apparently including territory in the East China Sea also claimed by China.

It would also stress the importance of strengthening Japan's defense ties with its allies, most importantly the United States.

## Syrian forces bomb mosque, activists say

By DIAA HADID

The Associated Press

BEIRUT — Syrian forces dropped a crude bomb on a mosque that was being used as a school in a rebel-held neighborhood of a key northern city on Tuesday, killing at least five people, including children, activists said.

The bombing — one of at least seven around Aleppo on Tuesday — came amid an intensified campaign by President Bashar Assad's government to take back parts of the city that were seized by rebels in mid-2012.

Far from the battlegrounds in Syria, Assad's biggest international ally expressed confidence the government would return to the U.N.-hosted peace talks in Geneva that are trying to find a solution to the conflict.

Russia's deputy foreign minister and Moscow's special envoy to the Middle East, Mikhail Bogdanov, said Tuesday he was sure the Syrian government would take part in the second round of the talks. Syria's crisis, which erupted as a peaceful uprising against Assad's rule in March 2011 but descended into an armed revolt and full-blown civil war, has killed more than 130,000 people and forced almost a third of the country's prewar population of 23 million from their homes.

"We have no doubts that the government representatives will take place in a second round of talks between the Syrian sides in Geneva," Bogdanov said in comments carried on Russian news agencies. "We hope that the sides will continue a patient, constructive discussion."

He spoke following a meeting in Moscow with a visiting Syrian opposition group, the Western-backed Syrian National Coalition.



ALEPPO MEDIA CENTER/AP

**A Syrian man carries a wounded child following a Syrian government airstrike in Aleppo, Syria, on Monday. The barrage on opposition-held neighborhoods in Aleppo continued Tuesday, including an airstrike that hit a mosque being used as a school, activists said.**

Assad's side has not committed or said publicly whether it would attend the next round, expected on Monday. The first round of talks in January failed to secure any meaningful agreement other than to meet again later this month for more talks.

Syria's opposition points to the air raids, especially the use of barrel bombs — crude devices packed with fuel, explosives and scraps of metal — in civilian areas, particularly over Aleppo, as evidence that Assad has little interest in peace.

The mosque targeted Tuesday in Aleppo — the Uthman Bin Affan mosque in the Masak-

en Hanano district — was used as a religious school for children, said activist Hassoun Abu Paisal, of the Aleppo Media Center.

He said children were inside when it was hit with a barrel bomb. Footage posted on social media shows men carrying at least two lifeless bodies of children, covered in dust and blood. The area in the footage is strewn with rocks, concrete and bodies.

The lifeless bodies of an adult and a child are seen lying on the pavement. One man is seen walking past, clutching his head in anguish. The video was consistent with the Associated Press's reporting of the event.

## Anne Frank's tin of marbles rediscovered

AMSTERDAM — Shortly before Anne Frank and her family went into hiding from the Nazis, she gave some of her toys to a non-Jewish girlfriend who lived in the building next door.

The Anne Frank House Museum said the toys have now been recovered and Anne's tin of marbles will go on display Wednesday at the Kunsthal art gallery in Rotterdam.

The neighbor, Toosje Kupers, kept the marbles along with a tea set and a book. It was only when Kupers, 83, was moving last year that she thought to mention the marbles to the museum.

Kupers told Dutch national broadcaster NOS that she didn't consider the marbles that special. She said shortly before the Frank family left the square they both lived on, the Merwedeplein, Anne approached her for a favor.

"I'm worried about my marbles, because I'm scared they might fall into the wrong hands," Kupers said Anne told her. "Could you keep them for me for a little while?"

Anne died of typhus in the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp in March 1945. Her diary was recovered and published after the war by her father Otto, the only member of the family to survive. It has become the most widely read document to emerge from the Holocaust.

## Police find cocaine in floating backpacks

MADRID — Spanish police say drug traffickers used a sophisticated system of floating backpacks with a tracking system to try to smuggle 2,000 pounds of cocaine into the country.

The Civil Guard's website on Tuesday said the drug was found in 37 backpacks floating in waters off a beach near the eastern city of Valencia.

The packs were tied to each other and had a tracking system so they could be located and picked up by traffickers. Police said the drug had been dropped off from a vessel farther out to sea.

A police statement said five Spaniards were arrested and \$97,000 in jewelry was confiscated.

From The Associated Press

## 2 Austrian Olympic athletes receive kidnap threats

By ERIC WILLEMSSEN

The Associated Press

VIENNA — The Austrian Olympic Committee has received an anonymous letter from Russia containing a kidnap threat against Alpine skier Marlies Schild and skeleton pilot Janine Flock during the Sochi Games.

The letter was delivered Monday into the mailbox of its Vienna office, AOC General Secretary Peter Mennel said Tuesday.

"We have immediately alerted the Federal Criminal Agency,

which is investigating the case," Mennel said.

That the AOC said in a statement that it was "not regarding it as an acute threat at the moment."

Mennel discussed the matter with Flock as they were sharing a flight from Vienna to Sochi on Tuesday, carrying many of the 130 Austrian Olympians on board.

"She is not worried. She trusts in our security measures," said Mennel, adding that Austrian athletes will be accompanied by

task force Cobra when they leave the Olympic Village.

Schild is scheduled to travel to Russia next week as she will compete only in the women's slalom on Feb. 21.

Schild, who won silver in slalom in Vancouver four years ago, is set to compete in her fourth Olympics. In December, Schild captured the all-time record for most World Cup slalom wins by a female skier as she won her 35th event in Lienz, Austria.

Flock, who is set to make

her first Olympic appearance, won the European skeleton title last month by coming first in a World Cup event in Koenigssee, Germany.

The threat against Schild and Flock comes less than two weeks after a string of European Olympic committees, including Austria's, received emails containing terrorist threats against its athletes in Sochi. However, the menacing messages were deemed a hoax by security experts, who said such threats were common ahead of big events.

## STARS AND STRIPES

Max D. Lederer Jr., Publisher  
 Richard Braun, General Manager, Europe  
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 Lt. Col. Brian Porter, Pacific commander

## EDITORIAL

Terry Leonard, Editorial Director  
 leonard.terry@stripes.com

Sam Amrhein, Deputy Managing Editor  
 amrhein.sam@stripes.com

Tina Croley, Enterprise Editor  
 croley.tina@stripes.com

## BUREAU STAFF

## Europe/Bureau

Teddie Weyr, News Editor Europe/Mideast  
 teddie.veyr@stripes.com;  
 +49(0)631.3615.15; fax (49)0(0)173.315.1881; DSN (314)583.9310

## Pacific

Paul Alexander, News Editor Pacific  
 alexander.paul@stripes.com  
 +81-3 6385.5377; cell (080)583.1673  
 DSN (312)225.5377

## Washington

Patrick Dickson, Washington Bureau Chief  
 dickson.patrick@stripes.com  
 (+1)703(693.6957; DSN (312)223.6957  
 News Writers, Assistant Managing Editor, News  
 brian.brown@stripes.com  
 Joe Gromelski, Assistant Managing Editor, Web  
 gromelski.joe@stripes.com  
 Sean Moores, Assistant Managing Editor,  
 Sports, Features and Graphics  
 moores.sean@stripes.com

## CONTACT US

## Washington

tel: (+1)202.761.0900; DSN (312)763.0900;  
 fax: (+1)202.761.0890  
 529 14th Street NW, Suite 350, Washington, DC  
 20045-1301

## Reader letters

letters@stripes.com

## Additional contacts

stripes.com/contacts

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Ernie Gates

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## OPINION

## Putin's losing the Sochi Olympics game

By JACKSON DIEHL

The Washington Post

This was to be the week Vladimir Putin reintroduced Russia to the world: a confident, economically booming power whose influence in Eastern Europe and the Middle East is coming back; whose ability to block and counter the United States is re-established; whose officers, which officers, Putin, a new model of conservatism for those disenchanted with the liberal West.

Yet that is not how it is turning out. Beginning Friday, the Sochi Olympics are more likely to become a forum for the demonstration of how and why Putin's rule of Russia has failed — and how his power is ebbing both abroad and at home.

Start with the scene in Sochi. Putin recently said that he "would like the participants, fans, journalists and all those who watch the Games on television to see a new Russia, see its face and possibilities." Here's the storylines the games so far have created: The Stalinist excess of a record \$50 billion spent, of which most may have been stolen; the hate speech directed by Putin at the gay community and the protests that has engendered; and, most ominously, the "black widows" and other terrorists who may stalk the games.

The civilized world may pray that the terrorists don't succeed. But they may also have cause to reflect on how, exactly, Russia came to have some of the world's most virulent homegrown Islamic jihadists. The simple answer is that Putin launched his career in 1999 by invading the then-autonomous Caucasian republic of Chechnya. He crushed its secular and democratically elected government, destroyed its capital with indiscriminate artillery fire and then claimed that anyone who resisted was a terrorist whom he would "rub out in the outhouse." His propaganda proved self-fulfilling, and the extremists he created have endured.



ALEXEI NIKOLSKIY, PRESIDENTIAL PRESS SERVICE/AP

Russian President Vladimir Putin listens to a translation during an interview in Sochi, site of the 2014 Winter Olympics.

Reflection on Chechnya naturally leads to consideration of Syria, where Putin has backed the regime of Bashar Assad in a nearly identical strategy for combating what began as a mass secular protest movement. The results are the same: the appearance of a Syrian al-Qaida corps that did not previously exist. A few months ago, many believed that Putin had nevertheless succeeded in resuscitating Assad, and with him Russia's place in the Middle East. He had prevented U.S. airstrikes and diverted the West into arguing with the rebels.

Now Putin's Syria gambit is curdling. Last week Assad's envoys to the Geneva peace talks embarrassed even the Russian delegation with their histrionic antics, while the State Department reported that Assad's fulfillment of a promise to hand over chemical weapons "has seriously languished and stalled." On the ground, deliveries of Russian arms to Assad's forces have failed to break a stalemate, and independent analysts are predicting a renewed rebel offensive in Damascus this spring.

Syria may not benefit much from these developments, but Russia and Putin are paying a price. A man deeply preoccupied with his self-image as the bare-chested

ruler of a superpower saw himself humiliated at an E.U.-Russia summit last week, despite the trademarked strategy by Europeans disgusted by his foreign policy. That came after President Barack Obama failed even to mention Russia or its leader in his State of the Union speech. The "reset" of U.S.-Russian relations, which allowed Putin to present himself as the natural counterpart to the U.S. president, has been rubbed out.

What about Putin's new model of authoritarian government based on "traditional values," such as homophobia? Ask Ukrainians. The story of their political crisis is, to a large degree, a story of Putin's attempt to install his model in a country that has been bonded to Russia for centuries and where one-sixth of the population is ethnic Russian. That includes the anti-gay agenda. Putin's surrogates and Russian media have claimed the Western-backed Ukrainian opposition wants to undermine the country's heterosexual norms.

The Ukraine drama is not yet over, but what we know is that Putin's ideology was rejected by the vast majority of Ukrainians, who occupied nearly every town hall after the government adopted anti-protest laws imported from Russia. Again Putin will pay a price, in the probable collapse of his dream of a "Eurasian Union" that would rival the EU and restore most of Moscow's Soviet sphere of hegemony.

What about in Russia itself? Putin's policies play better at home, to be sure. But there, too, all is not well. Once-robust economic growth has stalled, the ruble is plunging in value, badly needed foreign investment is scarce and law enforcement style corruption simmers. When the independent Levada center polled Russians last month on whether they wanted Putin to remain president after his current term expires, 22 percent said yes and 47 percent said no. The "new Russia" Putin will unveil in Sochi doesn't look likely to last.

Jackson Diehl is deputy editorial page editor for The Washington Post.

## How Obamacare killed immigration reform

By MARC A. THIENEN

Barack Obama has all but conceded his lame-duck status. His State of the Union address was bereft of big ideas. And his declaration that he will use his "pen and a phone" to issue a raft of executive orders is an admission of political impotence — a presidency reduced to small-ball initiatives like creating "myRA" savings accounts and raising the minimum wage for federal contractors.

The one exception — his one last shot at a major legislative achievement — was comprehensive immigration reform. But that isn't happening either.

The reason can be summed up in one word: Obamacare.

"Comprehensive" is Washington-speak for "big." And in the wake of the Obamacare debacle, no one is interested in anything big from Barack Obama.

"I try to focus not on the fumbles but on the next plan," Obama said this past week-end. But when you fumble as spectacularly as the president did with Obamacare, people don't trust your next plan.

It's not just that Americans don't trust the president's competence. Increasingly, they don't trust him — period. A majority believe the president passed Obamacare on the basis of a lie. And when you lie to people, they stop listening to you. Obama's State of the Union address garnered the lowest ratings of any president in 14 years — with 19 million fewer viewers than his first address in 2009. Obama can't rally the

country around big ideas when millions of Americans are tuning him out.

And Obama certainly can't rally Congress around big ideas when he is simultaneously declaring his intention to circumvent it. Every time Obama mentions his "pen and a phone," he reminds Republicans that he can undo any immigration deal he reaches with them with a stroke of his pen — gutting border-enforcement provisions while pocketing legalization. As Rep. Paul Ryan, a leading GOP supporter of immigration reform, put it this weekend: "We have an increasingly lawless presidency, where he is actually doing the job of Congress, writing new policies and new laws without going through Congress. ... We don't trust the president to enforce the law."

Ryan is right. Whether it is ignoring the law that requires him to suspend U.S. assistance to Egypt following a coup, or delaying the implementation of the Obamacare employer mandate even though nothing in the law permits him to do so, or issuing an executive order directing immigration officers to no longer deport an entire class of illegal immigrants who came here as children, regardless of individual circumstances — Obama has repeatedly shown his contempt for the law. Through his words ("you can keep your plan"), actions (selectively enforcing the law) and incompetence (Healthcare.gov), Obama has proved the trust needed to do his things. And that makes it unlikely we will see any

major initiatives signed into law for the remainder of his time in office.

But the damage is deeper than the impact on Obama's closing years in office. As the president's competence erodes in Obama's competence, but also in the competence of the federal government. And therein lies the great, unintended conservative achievement of the Obama presidency: Barack Obama has done more to discredit the cause of big government than a thousand Reagan speeches ever did.

For five years in the Obama 72 percent of Americans now say big government is the biggest threat to our country — the highest that number has been in 50 years of polling. Even 56 percent of Democrats agree. In other words, when people look back at the Obama era, they will not say, as he has five times in the past, "The rise and fall of the oceans began to slow. They will say it was the moment when the rise in support for big government began to slow and, indeed, reverse.

For the next quarter-century, anytime a liberal political position proposes a big-government program, all conservatives will have to say to discredit it is: "It's just another Obamacare."

That, in the end, will be this president's lasting achievement — what Obama will ultimately be remembered for long after his presidency is over.

Marc A. Thiessen is a fellow with the American Enterprise Institute. He writes a weekly column for The Washington Post.

## OPINION

## Executive orders serve up more pingpong

By PHILLIP J. COOPER

When President Barack Obama announced in last week's State of the Union address that he would use executive orders to achieve his policy goals, he didn't make any Republican friends.

"We continue to erode the whole notion of the rule of law," Sen. Tim Scott, R-S.C., said. "To the extent that he continues to move unilaterally without the consent of Congress, I think it doesn't sit well with a message of unity."

Of course, Obama is hardly the first president to use unilateral action to accomplish his goals. And as he goes it alone, he will face the same consequences that previous administrations did. Some of his executive orders will endure, but with others, the president will find that the next chief executive is as ready to change policy as he is.

Particularly in the years since Ronald Reagan, presidents have come to the White House ready to sweep aside previous administrations' policies and go around Congress, moving to enact their own policy wishes without waiting for legislation or executive branch agencies. Indeed, moves to reverse one's predecessor can look like presidential pingpong.

Reagan, for example, issued the highly controversial Mexico City Policy directive, blocking U.S. aid to organizations providing abortion counseling. That policy was immediately rescinded by Bill Clinton, only to be quickly reinstated by George W. Bush and rejected again by Obama. The same thing happened with security classification — Jimmy Carter limited what government information could be restricted as classified before Reagan required more security controls. Then, Reagan was overruled by Clinton, who was overruled by Bush, who was overruled by Obama.

Some presidential directives are mun-

dane — orders managing civil-service employees or military personnel, for example — but many others, such as the stack of orders and memoranda issued by Bush in the months after the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, have had broad and lasting effects. They can be used to create or reorganize executive branch offices or agencies, such as John F. Kennedy's order creating the Peace Corps and Bush's creation of the Office of Homeland Security. And, of course, the Bush administration used executive orders to establish its Guantanamo detention policies.

Such orders also direct U.S. relationships abroad. Forty-four executive orders on foreign policy — 33 from Bush, 11 from Obama — were issued between 2001 and 2011. Some were obvious choices, such as freezing Iraqi assets during the Iraq War. But obvious choices can have surprising consequences of which the public is unaware.

Bush's order, for example, targeted those who "have committed, or ... pose a significant risk of committing, an act or acts of violence that have the purpose or effect of: (A) threatening the peace or stability of Iraq or the Government of Iraq; or (B) undermining efforts to promote economic reconstruction and political reform in Iraq or to provide humanitarian assistance to the Iraqi people." This broad, vague order gave the secretary of the treasury authority to establish lists of people with whom Americans could not have financial interactions. Obama kept this order in force, and the list is now 589 triple-column pages in length.

Executive orders can be used to do endless rounds around Congress. They are quick and easy ways to take action. They can convey a sense of purpose, rally supporters and address dire problems, and they are not easy to challenge at least while the president who signed them is in office. Commissions



created by executive order investigated Iran-Contra in the Reagan years and the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in 2010, and coordinated Hurricane Katrina response during the Bush administration. Presidents who want to get things done without waiting, but face a Congress opposed to their policies, may find executive orders as attractive as the other side of the aisle finds them frustrating.

At the same time, executive orders can exacerbate tensions with other branches, within the executive branch, or with state and local governments. They can also be overturned in court, as was Clinton's order preventing the government from hiring contractors that replace striking workers. Worst of all, executive orders can raise questions about the rule of law and doubts

about the legitimacy of presidents' actions.

Is the key to understanding these tools is to see the whole playbook, not just a particular play. Presidents use different kinds of direct-action tools — memoranda such as Obama's myRA policy, signing statements such as Bush's circumvention of a law outlawing mistreatment of detainees, and proclamations and national security directives — in different ways. We must watch how a president uses such powers before passing judgment. And fans of one president have to know that the subsequent ones will use them as they see fit.

In presidential pingpong, the next player can always change the game.

Phillip J. Cooper is a professor in the Hatfield School of Government at Portland State University. This column first appeared in The Washington Post.

## Attorneys general overreach with 'litigation vetoes'

By JOHN SUTHERS

Attorneys general, both state and federal, are entrusted with the power and responsibility to enforce and defend laws created by the political process, which can be highly contentious. They are to do so without political influence.

I have been attorney general of Colorado for 16 years, during which time the state has enacted laws that span the philosophical and political spectrum. I personally oppose a number of Colorado's laws as a matter of public policy, and a few are contrary to my religious beliefs. But as my state's attorney general, I have defended them all — and will continue to.

Recently, however, attorneys general in Virginia, Pennsylvania and California have given in to the temptation to abuse the power entrusted to our position by refusing to defend their states' bans on same-sex marriage in court. Depending on one's view of the laws in question, such a "litigation veto" may, in the short term, be a terrific thing; an unpopular law is defanged and the attorney general can take credit — indeed, he can be the hero to his political base and keep his political ambitions intact.

But in the longer term, this practice corrodes our system of checks and balances, public belief in the power of democracy and ultimately the moral and legal authority on which attorneys general must depend.

To be sure, there will be occasions where

**Attorneys general have an ethical obligation to provide zealous representation of their clients — in this case, the people whose laws they are charged with defending.**

no attorney general can in good faith defend a law. There is clear high court precedent that decides some issues. Recently, my office was obliged to admit that the First Amendment prevents us from enforcing a Colorado law requiring marijuana-focused magazines to be hidden from children in stores. This was difficult, as I support efforts to shield children from what I view as the deleterious effects of our new world of state-legalized marijuana. But the binding precedent was clear, on point and unavoidable.

That's not yet the case with state laws banning same-sex marriage. While the Supreme Court has invalidated the federal Defense of Marriage Act, which denied federal benefits to gay couples who are legally married in their states, it declined to review the constitutionality of a state ban on gay marriage. In fact, the court declined to rule because the California attorney general refused to appeal a federal district court decision in favor of gay marriage and the justices found that the appellant had no standing to bring the issue to the high court. Attorneys general must play their assigned role in the system to ensure legal controversies are resolved.

It appears that some attorneys general are wielding the litigation veto for the same reasons a governor might wield a constitutional veto: They strongly disagree with the law. But in contrast to the president or a governor, there is no constitutional authority for this litigation veto. To the contrary, it undermines many important principles of our democracy.

Legislation that has been duly enacted and signed into law by the people's representatives (or, in the case of initiatives by the people themselves) should not be lightly abandoned. While attorneys general are typically more accountable to the people than are the courts, they still are not part of the lawmaking apparatus; they are elected or appointed to defend the laws, not to undermine them. Attorneys general have an ethical obligation to provide zealous representation of their clients — in this case, the people whose laws they are charged with defending.

Even when the litigation veto leaves states, or the federal government, in the politically "right" position, it undermines our democratic culture. Corrections of legislative mistakes should come from the people or their legislatures, except when the sepa-

ration of powers requires courts to step in and uphold constitutional principles.

I fear that refusing to defend unpopular or politically distasteful laws will ultimately weaken the legal and moral authority that attorneys general have earned and depend on. We will become viewed as simply one more player in a political system rather than as legal authorities in a legal system. The courts, the governments we represent, and, most important, the people we serve will treat our pronouncements and arguments with skepticism and cynicism. One must be cynical when an attorney general refuses to defend a controversial law as "clearly unconstitutional" when there is no binding precedent and it is apparent to most knowledgeable people that the U.S. Supreme Court is likely to decide the case on a 5-4 vote.

It can be hard to resist the urge to effectively purge from the books a law one finds unwise and possibly unjust. My hope, though, is that my colleagues will recognize that our system of divided power — however messy, frustrating or imperfect — is more important than any particular law it may produce. If they do, I am confident that their use of the litigation veto will fade and the task of correcting lawmaking mistakes will return to the people, the legislative branch and, when necessary, the courts.

John Suthers is attorney general of Colorado. This column first appeared in The Washington Post.



## WIRED WORLD



## Creative burst

PHOTOS BY DAI SUGANO, (SAN RAMON, CALIF.) BAY AREA NEWS GROUP/MCT

Abe Kislervitz, GoPro's senior production artist, demonstrates using a drone with a GoPro camera in San Mateo, Calif.

By PATRICK MAY  
San Jose Mercury News

## GoPro camera offers many cool things to do

Oh, the things people do with their GoPros.

Users have strapped the small cameras to themselves and then cliff-dived into the abyss. They've attached them to their pets, bikes and cars. They've shot them into the air, dropped them into the ocean, and sent them flying everywhere in between.

All those happy customers have helped make this an awesome year so far for GoPro, the San Mateo, Calif.-based startup whose high-definition, built-for-action personal cameras are changing the way the world does photography. The company recently picked up its first tech Emmy. Its latest camera, the Hero3+, continues to get rave reviews. Its Facebook page has received more than 7 million likes and counting.

"It's pretty amazing how much change we've seen around here since we moved over from Half

Moon Bay," said GoPro's senior production artist, Abe Kislervitz, employee No. 29 on a staff now approaching 700 people. He recalled the days back at the oceanside perch where surfer dude-cum-Forbes billionaire CEO Nick Woodman first ran the GoPro show, "and when we weren't working, we'd be out surfing every day."

Its affordable cameras and accessories are making even novices feel like action-film impresarios. Strapping the lightweight, rugged, palm-sized cameras onto everything from wild lions to sky divers to world-class snowboarders, the GoPro has become the darling of the daredevil set. And with as little as \$200 and an openness to let your imagination run wild, anyone can join in.

We asked Kislervitz to demonstrate five cool things you can do with a GoPro.

## Bursting out all over

Scooping up two handfuls of equipment from the hilltop headquarter's storage room ("For GoPro lovers, this room is heaven," he told us), Kislervitz took us outside to the adjacent College of San Mateo football field. With its jaw-dropping bay views as a backdrop, he demonstrated the camera's burst mode, where holding down the shutter button lets you snap up to 30 photos in a single burst.

"And since the camera's equipped with Wi-Fi, I can link it to my iPhone and use that as my remote control," he said, placing the camera onto the ground and then jumping high above it while squeezing his iPhone trigger. The result: 30 crystal-clear, distinct frames of his airborne body with the morning sun beaming behind him. "This way, I can pick and choose the one frame that best captures me in the air and the sun together."

## Smile: You're training

The GoPro's ideal for helping athletes and sports enthusiasts of all proficiency levels do what they do even better. Kislervitz said both the burst mode and the slow-motion video feature, which captures 120 frames per second, makes personal training more personal than ever before.

Surf champion Kelly Slater wore the camera on the front of

his board" for the prestigious 2013 Pipeline Masters, Kislervitz said. "And then in his video posted on YouTube, he analyzed his own performance riding the wave. Here he is, the greatest surfer of all time, and he's watching himself and pointing out things he should have done better."

## Up, up and away

OK, so this cool thing requires an investment of several hundred dollars for a personal drone. But once you've bought your DJI Phantom Quadcopter with the GoPro mount, you're in business. Kislervitz said as he used the Phantom's remote control to send the drone high above the football field. With a pivotal support called a gimbal keeping the drone and camera steady, and a tilt feature that allows the camera to pan in different directions, "we're getting beautiful ultra-HD video from the air."

"This technology lets us photograph places that in the past you'd need a helicopter or a zip line or a huge crane to get a camera even close to," he said.

## Get crazy

One of the unique things about GoPro is the creative user community that's mushroomed around the company and its products ever since it started selling cameras about 10 years ago. "We held a GoPro summer

camp at Whistler last year for kids as young as 12," Kislervitz said. "They started doing things like hitting the burst-mode switch and then throwing the camera in the air, so you could see all these pictures taken going up and then coming back down, which is something you can't do with any other camera."

With GoPro's developers constantly pushing the envelope with new accessories, such as a ski helmet-mounted rotating bar with two cameras attached, and a Hero mounted on a Styrofoam wing with a propeller that they sent flying off a golf-course tee and then landed by remote control on the green. The video gives a golf-ball's-eye view of the world as the camera slides toward the hole.

## Messing with time

One of the GoPro's most popular and dazzling features is its ability to do time-lapse photography. Kislervitz explained how the Hero can be programmed to take a steady sequence of photos over time, with as few as one snap every minute. Then, using GoPro's free Studio editing software on a computer, the photos can be stitched together and then slowed down or sped up for different effects.

"We've seen people do two-week road trips, where they'll use a suction cup to attach the camera to the dash and capture a time-lapse view of the road."

That, Baker said, "can elevate the traditional family road trip to a whole new level."



Equipped with Wi-Fi, GoPro's Hero3+ can be linked to a phone, from which it can be controlled remotely.

## FACES

# “This is the right time to leave”

## Jay Leno says there will be no return to late night after his 2nd ‘Tonight’ exit

BY LYNN ELBER  
The Associated Press

**J**ay Leno, as affably efficient backstage as he is in front of the camera, avoids waxing poetic about his 22-year “Tonight Show” run that draws to a close Thursday.

Instead, he relies on numbers to tell the story. Leno’s tenure is second only to Johnny Carson’s 30 years; “Tonight” was No. 1 among viewers when he took it over and will be when he hands it off to Jimmy Fallon; he’ll have taped more shows than any predecessor, Carson included, with the final and 4,610th one.

His dry assessment also might stem from a case of *déjà vu*. After all, he lived through this before when he surrendered “Tonight” in 2009 to Conan O’Brien, only to reclaim it after NBC’s messy bobbling of the transition and O’Brien’s lackluster ratings.

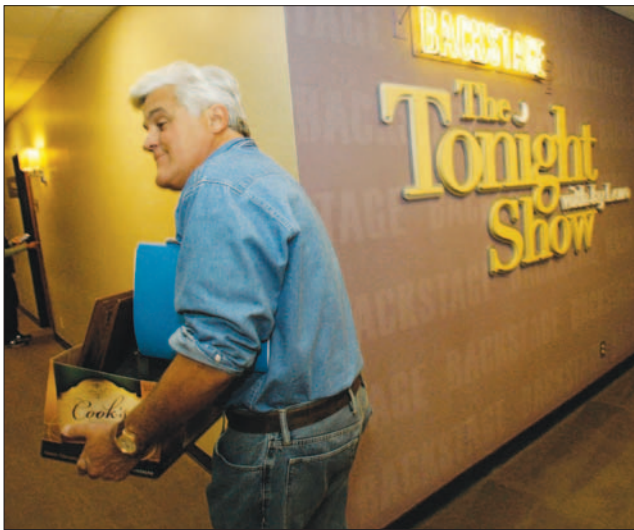
This time it’s different, Leno contends, offering another hard fact: The older generation has to make way for the younger one.

Britain’s Queen Elizabeth II can keep 65-year-old Prince Charles cooling his heels. Leno doesn’t have the power to do the same with Fallon, 39. The “Late Night” host is moving the show from its longtime Burbank, Calif., home to its New York birthplace when he debuts as host on Feb. 17.

“It’s been a wonderful job but this is the right time to leave,” said Leno, whose once-dark mop of hair is now a neatly groomed silver. “I’m at that age where I don’t really listen to the (current) music anymore. I’m not a big tweet guy. A 63-year-old guy reading Miley Cyrus’ tweets is a little creepy. Move on.”

He makes the argument with the precision of one of his reliable monologue jokes, just as he did when he claimed to understand NBC’s decision to evict him from O’Brien—even as he reamed the network on the air.

The years between then and now have seen changes come at a quickening pace, with an ever more crowded late-night arena and a shifting media environment. Fallon’s parody music bits with contemporaries like Justin Timberlake are perfect cut-and-pastes for sites like YouTube that



GARY FRIEDMAN, LOS ANGELES TIMES/MCT

**Jay Leno, host of “The Tonight Show,” walks in a hallway at the studio on Jan. 28 in Burbank, Calif. Leno’s final show, his 4,610th, will air Thursday. Jimmy Fallon takes over as host on Feb. 17.**

drive young viewer attention and offer new potential for ad sales as network revenues shrink.

Leno is planning to expand the comedy club gigs he never abandoned and various outlets for his automotive passion, including the Web show “Jay Leno’s Garage,” and the magazine and newspaper pieces he writes. He insists his schedule won’t include another late-night show, which could only be what he calls “Tonight Light.”

“It’s hard to re-create this mo-

ment. It’s like the fighter coming back. You got to be world champion, so it’s kind of silly,” he said.

“Tonight,” which launched in 1954, was shaped by original host Steve Allen and nurtured by successors Jack Paar and Carson. Following them represented the pinnacle for comedians, and it was the role Leno coveted and won upon Carson’s 1992 retirement.

His first few months were marred by Leno’s longtime manager Helen Kushnick, who, as his

first “Tonight” executive producer, was blamed for instigating nasty guest booking wars and fired in what then was characterized as one of TV’s biggest publicity nightmares.

Worse was to come, when NBC’s “Tonight” host succession plan hatched in 2004 went awry. Leno, who stoically endured insults from Jimmy Kimmel and others who portrayed him as having stolen O’Brien’s job, says the past is past. CBS’ Letterman, who

once jockeyed with Leno for Carson’s throne, echoed that.

“How long can I carry this with me?” he told Howard Stern during a SiriusXM interview Friday. He spoke of calling Leno when his second “Tonight” departure was announced, their first conversation in several years, and tipped his hat to his rival when Stern asked if Leno sounded sad.

“I wouldn’t say sad. There’s nothing to be sad about. He’s had a tremendous career there,” Letterman said, graciously.

Leno’s final show will feature Billy Crystal, his first “Tonight” guest, and Garth Brooks. Leno’s legacy—a word that makes him squirm—might include expanding the show’s opening monologue; a memorable mea culpa from Hugh Grant after he was arrested in 1995 with a prostitute; the first interview with a sitting president, Barack Obama, in 2009; and the “Jaywalking” fixture, which trips up people with simple questions.

Leno’s favorite Q&A is that those queried about how Mount Rushmore was formed often reply, “erosion.” His head-shaking reaction: “The wind and rain not only picked four presidents, it picked four of our greatest presidents!”

Was he the most daring, most innovative, most surprising force in late-night? His critics and even clear-eyed admirers said no, and Leno doesn’t argue with them—but that’s not what counts, he adds: “Whether you like the host or not, you cannot say it’s not been a success. A football team might not have the most sophisticated players but can win the Super Bowl.”

Leno cannot be called unsophisticated, but he is determined by un-show biz. He makes note of his modest New England upbringing, the high school friends he remains close to, his three-decade marriage to his wife, Mavis, and the many “Tonight” staffers who remained loyal throughout his tenure.

The day after Leno steps off the “Tonight” stage, the one designed for him, he will travel to Florida for a handful of club dates, his wife at his side. And, he said, he’ll be content with that.

**‘I’m at that age where I don’t really listen to the (current) music anymore. I’m not a big tweet guy. A 63-year-old guy reading Miley Cyrus’ tweets is a little creepy. Move on.’**

**Jay Leno**

‘Tonight Show’ host, on his pending departure

## Official: Packets found in Hoffman’s apartment contained heroin

The Associated Press

Tests confirmed there was heroin in at least some of the scores of plastic packets in the New York City apartment where Philip Seymour Hoffman was found dead on Sunday, a law enforcement official said, and another testified Tuesday to determine whether the drug was mixed or tainted.

Medical examiners have not made a determination of the cause of the actor’s

death, but police have been investigating it as an overdose. Hoffman, 46, was found in a bathroom with a syringe in his arm, law enforcement officials have said.

Questions have swirled about whether Hoffman’s death could be linked to a potent blend of heroin and synthetic morphine that has been tied to deaths elsewhere, although as yet there are no official findings pointing to that scenario.

### Other news

■ A judge said Chris Brown should remain in a rehabilitation facility and turned down a prosecutor’s motion to have the R&B singer jailed over an arrest in Washington, D.C., last year. Los Angeles Superior Court Judge James Brandlin said Brown appears to be making progress in a treatment facility and should remain there.

■ William “Bunny Rugs” Clarke, the lead singer of pop reggae band Third World, died of leukemia at his home in Florida, friends and colleagues said Monday. He was 65. Clarke worked with top reggae producer Lee “Scratch” Perry in Jamaica before joining Third World in 1976. The band had hits on British and U.S. charts, including “Now That We Found Love,” “Always Around” and “Reggae Ambassador.”

# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Police: Couple ran sham military collection

**FL** OCALA — A central Florida couple have been arrested after police say they set up a sham military donation operation.

Investigators said Gloria Di-  
anne Woodside and her boyfriend,  
Stephen J. Concannon, sold military paraphernalia in front of an Ocala store while dressed in fatigues.

An officer approached Concannon and said he'd received a complaint the activity might be fraudulent.

The officer asked Concannon for documents proving he had authorization to sell the merchandise. Concannon claimed to be from a Kissimmee Navy SEALs foundation, but when the officer called a number on one of the documents he provided, Concannon's phone rang.

Police said Concannon admitted the operation was fake, and that he told police he usually made \$200 per day and that his girlfriend was involved.

## Man survives attack by mountain lion

**CA** PERRIS — A homeless man repeatedly was bitten and clawed by a mountain lion at a Southern California encampment, but was expected to survive, state game wardens said Sunday.

The unidentified man, believed to be in his 50s, was camping near State Route 74 west of Perris late Saturday when he was mauled, California Department of Fish and Game Lt. Patrick Foy said.

Foy said the man didn't know what attacked him, but puncture wounds, bite marks and cuts to his body indicate he was mauled by a big cat.

"We are about 99 percent that it was a lion," Foy said. "The conclusion is based solely on the victim's injuries and the extent of the injuries."

The man was recovering at a hospital after undergoing emergency surgery.

"He's lucky to be alive," Foy said.

## Customer, guards foil robbery outside bank

**NJ** ATLANTIC CITY — Authorities said a would-be robber who attacked an elderly man outside a southern New Jersey bank was captured after the older elderly man and two bank security guards came to the victim's aid.

Atlantic City police said Calvin Wiggins, 20, faces robbery charges.

The 75-year-old victim was attacked about 9:30 a.m. Friday, shortly after he used an ATM at the bank. Police said Wiggins knocked the victim down and started going through his pockets.

Another elderly man tried to help the victim by hitting Wiggins with his cane. The man then alerted two bank security guards, who helped detain Wiggins until police arrived.

The victim apparently was not



BRANDY BAKER, DETROIT NEWS/AP

## Taking a close look

Lauren Tandy, 5, goes nose-to-nose Sunday with her Saint Berdoodle, Capone, after passing the judging stand in the Doggie Fashion Parade in Detroit. Dozens of pooches showcased their best looks at the event that also included carriage rides, skiing, crafts and hikes.

injured in the attack.

## Sweet Pea the shark ray delivers 6 pups

**KY** NEWPORT — The Newport Aquarium is celebrating the births of six healthy shark rays.

The rays are among the first of their kind born in captivity.

Three males and three females were born Jan. 24, but aquarium officials waited a few days to

make the announcement.

General Curator Mark Dvorak said the animal husbandry team wanted some time to observe the newborns and wanted to see how many would survive. A seventh pup died shortly after birth.

Dvorak said the pups were removed from their mother, Sweet Pea, because sharks don't care for their young.

The births came earlier than expected. The aquarium had just announced on Jan. 14 that Sweet Pea was pregnant.

## Thousands of starfish beached on island

**TX** HARLINGEN — A combination of weather conditions beached thousands of starfish along the beaches of an island located in South Texas, near the border with Mexico.

High winds, rough seas and strong currents caused the mass stranding of thousands of starfish along the beaches of South Padre Island, east of Brownsville.

## THE CENSUS



# \$70K

The amount of money the Super Bowl safety scored in refunds for customers of a Birmingham, Ala.-area jeweler. Jeff Dennis Jewelers ran a promotion the past two weeks that promised all of its customers cash refunds on their purchases if a safety was scored in the Super Bowl by either team. And they would get to keep their jewelry. On the first snap of the game, the center snapped the ball over Denver Broncos quarterback Peyton Manning's head, and the ball was recovered in the end zone by the Broncos, resulting in a safety for the Seattle Seahawks.

It was initially thought that the beaching was caused by the unusually cold temperatures affecting the area last week. Dr. David Hicks, chair of the Department of Biological Sciences at the University of Texas at Brownsville, cites a combination of weather factors and the possibility that the starfish were feeding on shallow waters at the time

## Residents call police over flying drone

**TN** LA VERGNE — Residents in a neighborhood in La Vergne have reported sightings of a flying drone to police.

The flying machine was spotted Thursday in the Knollwood neighborhood, spurring curiosity and concern about what the drone's operator was up to.

Resident Carolyn Hickerson said the drone appeared to be taking pictures of people's homes. By Friday, police were asking residents to watch for remote-controlled aircraft.

Hickerson later saw a man she believes had been flying the drone up the street. He drove away in a silver Corvette with a Florida license plate.

Authorities said the drone may be in use by a roofing company planning to solicit residents.

## Girl Scout troop's cookie money stolen

**AZ** PHOENIX — A Girl Scout troop says someone stole the money they made from cookie sales outside a Phoenix supermarket.

A mother supervising the group put down the bag, which contained \$650, for a moment about 7 p.m. Friday.

The group had been loading unsold cookies at the time of the theft.

From wire reports



# U.S. GOV'T GOLD AT-COST

TODAY - United States Gold & Silver Reserve has scheduled what could be the final release of U.S. government-issued \$5 gold coins previously held at the U.S. Mint at West Point. These government-issued gold coins are being released on a first-come, first-served basis for the incredible markup-free price of only \$135 per coin. Please be advised: Our at-cost U.S. government gold inventory will be available at this special price while supplies last or for up to 30 days. Do not delay. Call a Portfolio Manager today.

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## BUSINESS/WEATHER

## Google told to move mystery barge

BY MICHAEL LIEDTKE  
AND MARTHA MENDEZ  
The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Google does not have the proper permits for a mystery barge at a construction site on an island in San Francisco Bay, a state official said, and must move the floating, four-story building that drew wide attention and fueled weeks of speculation when it was erected last fall.

"It needs to move," Larry Goldzband, executive director of the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, said Monday.

The commission investigated numerous complaints and found that neither the Treasure Island Development Authority nor the city of San Francisco had applied for required permits for the work to be done at the site and could face fines and enforcement proceedings, Goldzband said.

Goldzband said Google can resolve the issue by moving the barge to one of the fully permit-

ted construction facilities in the San Francisco Bay.

Google Inc. said it is still reviewing a letter from Goldzband outlining the commission's concerns about the secretive project.

Google has been vague about plans for the barge or a similar vessel off the East Coast and says they may change, but preliminary planning documents and a subsequent statement from the company said the barge would be an interactive space for people to learn about technology as it traveled from dock to dock.

The documents ended weeks of speculation that the barge would be a party boat, data storage center or a store for Google to sell its Internet-connected glasses.

Now it has apparently become another headache for the search giant in its dealings with San Francisco, 40 miles north of its corporate headquarters in Mountain View, Calif.

Google also has been at the center of a city controversy over



Two men fish in front of a Google barge in San Francisco in October.

private buses that several large tech companies use to transport workers south to Silicon Valley. Some community members say the buses are congesting city bus stops, so the city recently voted to charge the companies for each stop the buses make.

The space to build the barge is being leased by the Treasure Island Development Authority for \$79,000 per month under a contract set to expire in August, according to agency records.

## MARKET WATCH

Feb. 3, 2014

Dow Jones	-326.05
Industrials	15,372.80
Nasdaq composite	-106.92
Standard & Poor's 500	-40.70
Russell 2000	-36.30
	1,094.58

## EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (Feb. 5)	\$1.3860
Dollar buys (Feb. 5)	€0.7215
British pound (Feb. 5)	£1.67
Japanese yen (Feb. 5)	¥100.00
South Korean won (Feb. 5)	₩1,058.00

Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3771
British pound	£1.6300
Canada (Dollar)	1.1082
China (Yuan)	6.0605
Denmark (Krone)	6.5239
Egypt (Pound)	6.9652
Euro	\$1.3510/0.7402
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.646
Hungary (Forint)	279.54
Israel (Shekel)	3.5365
Japan (Yen)	101.43
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2829
Norway (Krone)	6.2861
Philippines (Peso)	45.36
Poland (Zloty)	3.12
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7504
Singapore (Dollar)	1.2688
South Korea (Won)	1,081.15
Switzerland (Franc)	0.9050
Thailand (Baht)	32.76
Turkey (Lira)	2.2520

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., nonlocal British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

## INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	2.75
Federal funds market rate	0.07
3-month bill	0.04
30-year bond	3.53

## WEATHER OUTLOOK



The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

## Wednesday's US temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr
Able, Texas	27	12	Cldy	Chattanooga	50	28	Cldy	Fort Wayne	24	3	Cldy	Louisville	31	11	Cldy
Akron, Ohio	28	8	Snow	Chicago	22	-2	Snow	Fort Wayne	24	3	Cldy	Lubbock	22	10	Cldy
Albany, N.Y.	28	14	Snow	Cincinnati	29	12	Cldy	Goodland	-2	-12	Cldy	Macomb	66	37	Rain
Albuquerque	42	24	Cldy	Cleveland	26	10	Snow	Grand Junction	22	10	Snow	Medford	44	24	Cldy
Allentown, Pa.	32	17	Snow	Colorado Springs	8	-4	Cldy	Great Falls	-8	-19	Cldy	Memphis	35	21	Cldy
Amarillo	18	4	Pcldy	Columbia, S.C.	69	38	Rain	Green Bay	15	-8	Cldy	Miami Beach	83	70	Cldy
Anchorage	24	12	Cldy	Columbus, Ga.	62	36	Cldy	Midland-Odessa	30	18	Cldy	Reno	43	26	Cldy
Asheville	57	26	Cldy	Columbus, Ohio	57	26	Cldy	Midland-Odessa	30	18	Cldy	Reno	43	26	Cldy
Atlanta	57	32	Cldy	Concord, N.H.	29	11	Snow	Harrisburg	19	19	Cldy	Richmond	59	31	Cldy
Atlantic City	43	23	Rain	Corpus Christi	60	41	Cldy	Helena	-4	-18	Cldy	Rochester	26	15	Snow
Austin	59	28	Cldy	Dallas-Ft. Worth	36	20	Cldy	Honolulu	78	67	Cldy	San Antonio	68	19	Snow
Baltimore	40	24	Rain	Dayton	27	8	Cldy	Houston	54	33	Pcldy	San Francisco	57	38	Pcldy
Baton Rouge	54	31	Pcldy	Daytona Beach	81	61	Cldy	Huntsville	44	26	Rain	St. Louis	24	0	Cldy
Bilings	5	-21	Cldy	Denver	5	-8	Cldy	Indianapolis	26	3	Cldy	St. Petersburg	77	63	Cldy
Birmingham	47	28	Cldy	Des Moines	7	-10	Cldy	Jacksonville	45	26	Pcldy	St. Thomas	85	76	Rain
Bismarck	9	-11	Cldy	Detroit	26	8	Snow	Juneau	24	16	Cldy	Salem, Ore.	50	35	Rain
Boise	28	11	Cldy	Duluth	3	-14	Cldy	Kansas City	9	-10	Cldy	Salt Lake City	33	21	Cldy
Boston	33	21	Snow	El Paso	49	30	Cldy	Kansas City	9	-10	Cldy	San Jose	66	51	Cldy
Bridgeport	32	22	Snow	Elkins	43	21	Rain	Key West	81	72	Pcldy	San Jose	66	51	Cldy
Brownsville	68	49	Pcldy	Erie	27	12	Snow	Knoxville	50	27	Cldy	San Jose	66	51	Cldy
Buffalo	26	12	Snow	Eugene	32	14	Cldy	Lake Charles	57	33	Pcldy	San Jose	66	51	Cldy
Burlington, Vt.	26	9	Snow	Evansville	30	10	Snow	Lansing	21	7	Snow	San Jose	66	51	Cldy
Caribou, Maine	18	-3	Cldy	Fairbanks	5	-9	Cldy	Las Vegas	56	38	Pcldy	San Jose	66	51	Cldy
Charleston, S.C.	73	43	Rain	Fargo	0	-13	Cldy	Lexington	35	12	Cldy	San Jose	66	51	Cldy
Charleston, S.C.	73	43	Rain	Flagstaff	38	18	Pcldy	Lincoln	8	-9	Cldy	San Jose	66	51	Cldy
Charlotte, N.C.	44	25	Cldy	Flint	24	5	Snow	Little Rock	35	21	Cldy	San Jose	66	51	Cldy
Charlotte, N.C.	44	25	Cldy	Fort Smith	30	15	Cldy	Los Angeles	63	48	Cldy	San Jose	66	51	Cldy

National temperature extremes  
Lo: Mon., 86, New Smyrna Beach, Fla.  
Lo: Mon., 30 at Dole Lake, Mich.

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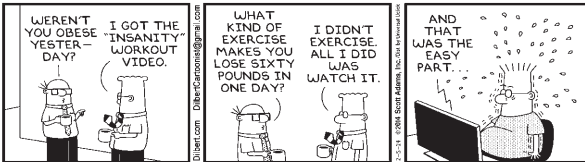
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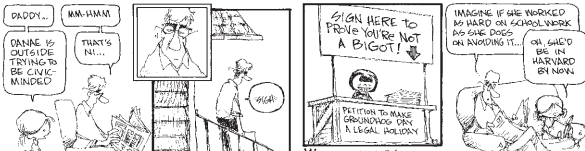
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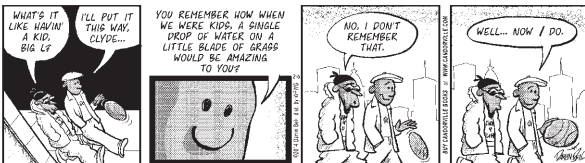
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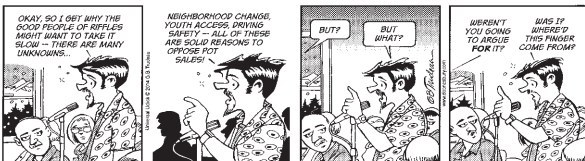
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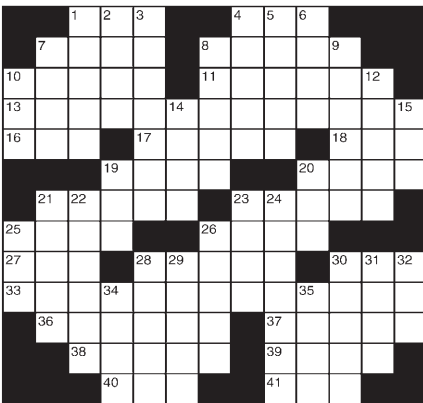
Doonesbury



Fort Knox



## Eugene Sheffer Crossword



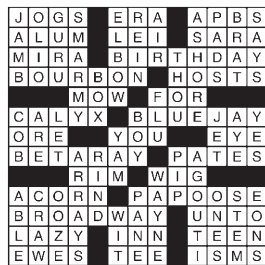
### ACROSS

- 1 "Calling all cars" letters
- 4 Blue
- 7 Sheltered
- 8 Midafternoon
- 10 Played a part
- 11 Drying racks
- 13 All over the Globe?
- 16 Apiece
- 17 Cancels
- 18 Snip
- 19 Polygraph flunker
- 20 Engrave, maybe
- 21 Follow relentlessly
- 23 Yellow-flowered herb
- 25 Sticky stuff
- 26 Sea food
- 27 Spring mo.
- 28 Choral composition
- 30 Witness
- 31 Ohio city
- 36 Inferior, as workmanship
- 37 Miniskirt designer Mary
- 38 Hardness symbol
- 39 Arm bone
- 40 Rowboat need
- 41 Wapiti

### DOWN

- 1 Sacrifice site
- 2 Cheat at
- 3 Cause distress for
- 4 Recoiled
- 5 Tapestry
- 6 Bambi, for one
- 7 Rue the run
- 8 Long-snouted animal
- 9 Puts up
- 10 Viper
- 12 Drench
- 13 To the — degree
- 15 Once around
- 20 Type measures
- 21 Future juniors
- 22 Pentateuch scrolls
- 23 Genealogy chart
- 24 It's nothing new
- 25 Bombast
- 26 — alcohol
- 28 Whom Jason jilted
- 29 Sequence
- 30 Hit a golf ball the wrong way
- 31 Sicilian spouter
- 32 Superlative
- 34 Japanese suffix
- 35 Sea bird

### Answer to Previous Puzzle



### 2-5

### CRYPTOQUIP

P YNKII OTK EKM ZTL  
PMOFLGNAKG Q ALEENMQV  
EKVOKG-ATKKIK GPIT OL  
QEKFPAQ ZKFK HLMGNPMY  
HQOTKFI

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WOULD FACTUAL STATEMENTS ABOUT FOOD WHIPPING AND PUREEING MACHINES BE TRUTH-IN-BLENDING?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: K equals E



## Air Force adds two coaches to football staff

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## COLLEGE BASKETBALL

## Cooney hits 33 as No. 1 Syracuse stays perfect

By JOHN KEKIS  
The Associated Press

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — Trevor Cooney has his shooting touch back — just in the nick of time for top-ranked Syracuse.

Cooney scored a career-high 33 points, matching a school record with nine three-pointers, and the Orange beat Notre Dame 61-55 on Monday night in another matchup of former Big East foes.

After struggling to a woeful 25.4 percent (14-for-55) from behind the arc in his first seven Atlantic Coast Conference games, Cooney has hit 11 of 13 in the past two games and was the difference against the Irish as the Orange's front line faltered.

"It feels good," Cooney said. "I kind of got going, and guys just found me in good spots."

Syracuse (22-0, 9-0 Atlantic Coast Conference), which moved to No. 1 this week after its scintillating 91-89 overtime victory over Duke on Saturday night and Arizona's loss to California, extended its school record for most consecutive wins to start a season. Notre Dame (12-11, 3-7) has lost seven of nine.

Two days after one of the most emotional wins in Jim Boeheim's 38 years as head coach, Syracuse played its first game as the nation's top team since the 2011-12 season. Two years ago, the Orange were unbeaten and ranked No. 1 when they went to South Bend, and Notre Dame upset them 67-58.

It was the eighth time Notre Dame had beaten a No. 1 team and turned out to be Syracuse's lone loss of the regular season.

"That was in the back of my mind," said C.J. Fair, who had a season-low six points on 2-of-13 shooting after scoring a career-high 28 against Duke. "I didn't want that to happen again."

Cooney made sure there was no repeat, hitting five three-pointers in the first half as the Orange gained a three-point halftime advantage, then barely held the Irish at bay in the second half.

"We put ourselves in position to make it interesting," Notre Dame coach Mike Brey said. "We came into this game, and especially if you watch what they did to Duke, beating them up in the paint. You really try to take stuff away in the paint. I thought overall with the guys that destroy you in the paint we did a good job. But we couldn't do a good job on Cooney. Seven of the nine I think we challenged. He was just in one of those zones, and you've got to take your hat off."

Cooney, 9-for-12 from long range, matched the record set by Gerry McNamara in the 2004 NCAA tournament and equaled by Andy Rautins in 2008 and James Southerland in 2012.

Jerami Grant and Fair, who combined for 54 points against Duke, combined for just 15, while Tyler Ennis found little room in the lane to penetrate and finished with six points and eight assists.

Garrick Sherman led Notre Dame with 16 points. Steve Vasturia had 13, and Pat Connaughton-11, while Eric Atkins had nine on 3-for-10 shooting.

Notre Dame closed within 38-32 on a three-pointer from Atkins with 14:19 to play, but Syracuse responded with seven straight



KEVIN RIVOL/AP

Syracuse's Trevor Cooney passes the ball while guarded by Notre Dame's Eric Atkins during the first half of Monday's game at the Carrier Dome in Syracuse, N.Y. Top-ranked Syracuse won 61-55.

points. Grant slammed home a dunk after his block on Sherman and Fair followed with a slam off a Grant miss. Cooney completed the run with his seventh three-

pointer, which tied his personal best.

The Irish have four long-range threats in Atkins, Connaughton, Vasturia, and Demetrius Jackson,

who had combined for 127 three-pointers on the season entering the game, and Notre Dame's long-range attack came alive in the second half after getting 1-for-6 in the first 20 minutes.

Two three-pointers by Atkins, Vasturia's three-point play and a slam dunk by Tom Knight moved the Irish back within 43-40 with 8:41 to go.

Grant responded with a spinning drive through the lane and Cooney hit another three-pointer. Grant then fed Cooney for a reverse layup and three-point play and Cooney hit his ninth three-pointer for a 54-44 lead with 4:14 to play.

Notre Dame refused to wilt, pulling back to 54-49 on Connaughton's three-point play at 2:52.

"That's who this group is," Brey said. "We haven't been able to get over the hump and win enough. We've been down on the road just about every time, and we come back and give ourselves a chance. I love that about us. If we keep doing that enough, I think we'll get a couple of them."

Grant's layup off a feed from Ennis and two free throws by Ennis boosted the lead back to eight, and the Orange made it interesting when Ennis and Fair each missed the front end of 1-and-1s in the final minute.

Atkins missed a floater and Connaughton was off on a three-point attack in the final seconds.

"I had a look and missed, which would have been a really big shot for us," Atkins said. "That was a huge play. But they played great. They made plays when they were needed."

## Top 25 roundup

## Iowa St. outlasts Oklahoma St. in 3 OT thriller

The Associated Press

STILLWATER, Okla. — A pair of unlikely players helped Iowa State win one of the most thrilling games of the college basketball season.

Naz Long hit a three-pointer to tie the game with 1.4 seconds left in the second overtime and Monte Morris drained a three in the final minute of the third overtime to help the 16-ranked Cyclones defeat No. 19 Oklahoma State 98-97 in triple overtime on Monday night.

"I think you guys have been seeing it all year — those guys can play," said Iowa State's Melvin Ejim, the Big 12's leading scorer. "One through 12, we can play and the confidence coach instills in us, in each player, to go out and knock down that shot with confidence — it showed today. We had multiple guys step up and make big shots."

Iowa State's stars did their part. DeAndre Kane had 26 points, 10 rebounds and nine assists while primarily being guarded by Oklahoma State star Marcus Smart.

Ejim had 22 points and 12 rebounds, Georges Niang scored 17 points and Dustin Hogue added 10 points and 13 rebounds for the Cyclones (17-4, 5-4 Big 12). It was Iowa State's first victory at Gallagher-Iba Arena since March 2, 1988, back when both teams were still in the Big 8 Conference.

"To get this win out was huge," Iowa State coach Fred Hoiberg said. "It would have been a very difficult loss fighting three overtimes and walking out of here with a loss. I'm proud of our guys for finding a way to win it."

Le'Bryan Nash scored 26 points, Smart had 20 points and eight assists and Markel Brown added 19 points and 10 rebounds for Oklahoma State (16-6, 4-5), which lost its third in a row. Oklahoma State was without guard Stevie Clark, who was kicked off the team Monday after his second arrest of the new year.

Oklahoma State coach Travis Ford, normally talkative, had little to say after the game.

"We had our chances," he said. "We didn't rebound the basket-

ball at crucial times. Obviously, Iowa State made big shots and had big rebounds. We didn't rebound when it counted."

Kane and Morris each played 52 minutes for Iowa State. Brown played 54 minutes, Smart played 52 and Nash 50 for Oklahoma State.

"I couldn't keep going," Nash said. "I love basketball, but it was a tough game. We played as hard as we can."

**No. 6 Villanova 81, Xavier 58:** James Bell hit six three-pointers and scored 27 points and Darrun Hilliard had 17 to lead host Villanova to a win over Xavier.

Bell made 6 of 10 three-pointers and was 10-for-14 overall from the floor and grabbed eight rebounds. He scored 21 points in the second half as the Wildcats (20-2, 8-1 Big East) hit the 20-win mark at the second fastest point in program history. The 2009-10 team opened 20-1.

Semaj Christian led Xavier (15-7, 5-4) with 17 points and Matt Stainbrook had 14. The Musketeers have lost three straight.



BRODY SCHMIDT/AP

Iowa State's DeAndre Kane dunks the ball during the first half of Monday's Big 12 game in Stillwater, Okla. Iowa State won 98-97.

## NFL/OLYMPICS



PAUL SANCYA/AP

Seattle Seahawks quarterback Russell Wilson, left, laughs with Seahawks head coach Pete Carroll during a television interview after Super Bowl XLVIII on Sunday in East Rutherford, N.J.

## Seahawks ready to begin work on defending Super Bowl title

BY HOWARD FENDRICH  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Less than 12 hours after winning the Super Bowl, Seattle Seahawks coach Pete Carroll already was talking about getting started on next season.

"The first meeting that we'll have will be tomorrow. ... Our guys would be surprised if we didn't," Carroll said Monday morning. "We really have an eye on what's coming, and we don't dwell on what just happened. We'll take this in stride."

He appeared at a news conference at a Manhattan hotel with linebacker Malcolm Smith, the MVP of Seattle's 43-8 victory over Peyton Manning and the Denver Broncos on Sunday night.

Carroll oversees a team with the fourth-youngest roster for a Super Bowl champ, with an average age of 26 years, 175 days, according to STATS. The youngest champs ever were the Pittsburgh Steelers who won the 1975 Super Bowl, and they collected a second straight title the next year.

Seattle quarterback Russell Wilson just wrapped up his second season in the league, as did Jermaine Kearse, the receiver who caught one of the QB's two touchdown passes Sunday night. Doug Baldwin, who caught the other, is only three years into his pro career, as are star cornerback Richard Sherman and Smith, who at 24 is the fourth-youngest player to be the Super Bowl MVP.

"We've seen the effort that it takes to get to this point and, obviously, we'll try to replicate that and do it again," Smith said. "We're looking forward to the next challenges and guys having

**"We've seen the effort that it takes to get to this point and, obviously, we'll try to replicate that and do it again. We're looking forward to the next challenges and guys having a target on their back and people trying to come after us."**

Malcolm Smith

Seattle Seahawks linebacker and Super Bowl XLVIII MVP

a target on their back and people trying to come after us."

Smith became the third linebacker to earn Super Bowl MVP honors, thanks to a 69-yard touchdown return off an interception of regular-season MVP Manning in the first half and a fumble recovery in the second half.

He said that during the game, some of his teammates were telling him, "You might be the MVP."

"And I was like, 'No way. No way. Not me.'"

Carroll said general manager John Schneider has positioned the Seahawks to be able to avoid the problems that can make it hard to repeat as NFL champions. Since Denver repeated in the 1999 game, only one team has won two Super Bowls in a row, the New England Patriots in 2004-05.

There's the need to replace players who leave via free agency. The need to pay other players with new, better-paying contracts.

"John Schneider has done an extraordinary job of structuring this roster contractually, and with the vision of looking ahead, so that we can keep our guys together," Carroll said. "One of the things that happens every so often is teams have a fall foul after they win the Super Bowl. We're not in that situation."

Carroll was reminded during Sunday's game of some of his blowout wins in college bowl games when he was a title-winning coach at Southern California.

"It felt like it. It looked like it. The score was like it," he said Monday.

"I really can't tell you exactly what it is, but something's going on, because I sat back there at the end of the first quarter and said, 'Shoot, here it goes,'" he said. "Bang, bang, bang, bang, and it's 22-0 at halftime."

Carroll described the lopsided nature of the game as "kind of like an avalanche," an interesting choice of words given the hailstorm last week — and, really, for months before that — over whether the first outdoor Super Bowl at a cold-weather site would be affected by snow.

Instead, the weather wasn't a factor Sunday at the stadium in East Rutherford, N.J., where the temperature was 49 degrees at kickoff and only some light rain fell. On Monday morning, meanwhile, driving snow hit the area and forecasts called for up to 8 inches.

"I don't know how (NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell) pulled it off, but he pulled off the weather in perfect fashion," Carroll joked. "The NFL is powerful."

# White adds name to list of injured

## Snowboarder jams his left wrist during a run on treacherous slopestyle course

BY EDDIE PELLIS  
The Associated Press

KRASNAYA POLYANA, Russia — Shaun White saw the glassy sheen of the super-steep takeoff ramp and knew something bad was coming.

He fell and jammed his left wrist — adding another nagging injury to his long list of bumps and bruises while also entering his name on the growing list of athletes falling victim to a treacherous Olympic slopestyle course.

"A little intimidating," he called the course after Tuesday's training. "It's been a challenge."

Through two days of practice runs in the Russian mountains above Sochi, the course at Rosa Khutor Extreme Park has already taken out one of the favorites, Torstein Horgmo of Norway, who broke a collarbone while riding through the rails Monday.

On Tuesday, shortly after White's minor injury, Marika Enne of Finland fell hard and hit her head at the end of her run. She was taken off the course on a stretcher with a concussion.

Slopestyle qualifying begins Thursday — the day before the opening ceremony — with White trying to win the first of two gold medals at this year's Olympics. His attempt at a third straight title on the halfpipe is set for next Tuesday.

First, though, he must emerge unscathed from a slopestyle course that is taking its toll on some of the world's best riders.

"It's frustrating to see it," White said. "It puts a damper on the whole mood and it's kind of like you're getting ready to do a big trick and you see something like that. Intimidating. Unfortunately, I'm hoping the builders can make some changes and the course has a little more of a friendly vibe. But I can't change the course. Just doing the best I can."

Rider after rider said the same thing. As Tuesday's training session was winding down, a large

cluster of snowboarders and their coaches met at the base for a discussion of what changes need to be made before Thursday.

No matter what fixes they make, there's no taking the danger completely out of slopestyle.

Horgmo's injury came on a rail at the top of the course — a feature that has potential for injury no matter how the course is built.

Canada's Mark McMorris, one of the favorites in this event, knows all about that. He is 10 days removed from breaking a rib after slamming into a rail on his final run at the Winter X Games.

He said he's medically clear but still sore. He skipped training Monday and made his first runs Tuesday.

Asked about the course, he said the take-off ramps are built "kind of obnoxiously tall." One theory is they were overbuilt to compensate for melting, which could come if temperatures remain above freezing as they have this week.

But dangerous?

"I don't think it's dangerous," McMorris said. "Snowboarding's dangerous. But crossing the street is dangerous, too."

White claimed his wrist injury shouldn't slow him down over the upcoming six-day span that will help determine his legacy; on the halfpipe, he is hoping to become the first American male athlete to win an event at the Winter Games three straight times.

The shiner he took while training in Copper Mountain last week is almost completely cleared up — just a small trace of red underneath the right eye.

The ankle he sprained last month? No problem.

The right shoulder he jammed in a nasty fall in Mammoth Lakes at an Olympic qualifier? "The shoulder still needs to cooperate a little more. It's a little rough. I've just got to warm it up real good in the morning," he said.

Not that anybody expects to reach the Olympics without a few aches and pains.



ANDY WONG/AP

Shaun White takes a jump during a snowboard slopestyle training session at the Rosa Khutor Extreme Park on Tuesday in Krasnaya Polyana, Russia.

# OLYMPICS

## CAPSULES BY SPORT

**SOCHI, Russia**—A look at the sports for the Sochi Olympics:

### Alpine skiing

#### THE BASICS

After missing the first three Winter Olympics, Alpine skiing joined the program in 1936. Ten gold medals will be awarded in Sochi, five for men and five for women—downhill, slalom, giant slalom, super giant slalom (usually called super-G) and super combined.

#### STARS TO WATCH

With Lindsey Vonn out injured, the 18-year-old American many call "The Next Lindsey Vonn," Mikaela Shiffrin, will attract plenty of attention as the favorite to win the slalom. Maria Hoefl-Riesch of Germany, a double gold medalist at the 2010 Vancouver Games, and Lara Gut of Switzerland, who'll be making her Olympic debut, could dominate other races. Aksel Lund Svindal of Norway already enjoys rock-star status in Europe, while 36-year-old Bode Miller, owner of five Olympic medals, and Ted Ligety, who won three titles at last year's world championships, will also be ones to watch from the U.S. team.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

Austria has won a record 105 Alpine skiing medals at the Olympics, nearly twice as many as any other country. Switzerland ranks second with 56, followed by France with 43 and the United States with 39.

### Biathlon

#### THE BASICS

Like several other sports, biathlon has military origins with the combination of cross-country skiing and rifle shooting first becoming a common exercise for winter troops in northern countries during the second half of the 19th century. That also helps explain why countries like Norway, Russia and Sweden are still dominant. Biathlon has one of the busiest schedules on the Olympic program, with four individual events for both men and women, along with a relay. New for this year is a mixed relay.

#### STARS TO WATCH

Martin Fourcade of France has been the top men's biathlete in the last two years, winning three world championship titles in 2012 and the overall World Cup last season, and he is expected to add his first Olympic gold in Sochi. Emil Hegle Svendsen of Norway could well add to his two golds from Vancouver, as well. On the women's side, expect Tora Berger of Norway and Darya Domracheva of Belarus to grab at least a couple of medals each.

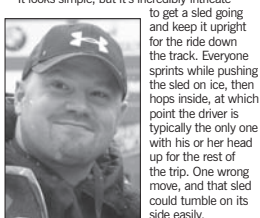
#### DID YOU KNOW?

One of the all-time greats will be competing in the biathlon events in Sochi as Ole Einar Bjørndalen aims to cap his storied career by making Olympic history. The 40-year-old Norwegian has six Olympic golds from previous Games and needs two more to equal the Winter Games record. While Bjørndalen hasn't won an individual World Cup race in two years, Norway is one of the favorites in both the men's and mixed relay—meaning he could well get there.

### Bobsled

#### THE BASICS

It looks simple, but it's incredibly intricate



to get a sled going and keep it upright for the ride up through the keep it upright for the ride up through the track. Everyone sprints while pushing the sled on ice, then hops inside, at which point the driver is typically the only one with his or her head up for the rest of the trip. One wrong move, and that sled could tumble on its side easily.

#### STARS TO WATCH

Steven Holcomb



KERSTIN JOENSSON/AP

**Norway's Ole Einar Bjørndalen, competing in his sixth Olympics and already owning six gold medals, is one of the favorites in the men's biathlon and mixed relay. Bjørndalen can tie the Winter Games record with two more golds in Sochi.**

of the United States was the top driver on the men's World Cup circuit this winter, while Kaitlief Humphries of Canada took the women's overall title. Both won gold at the 2010 Vancouver Games and might again this year. The U.S. has two Olympic track athletes on the women's team, with gold medalist Lauren Williams and Lolo Jones qualifying as push athletes.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

BMW doesn't just make fast cars. Their sled-building business will be on full display in Sochi, with Germans, Americans and Canadians—all medal favorites—among the nations racing in their sleds. And while those sleds bear the same logo, there's some significant set-up and technological differences depending on which nation's flag is affixed.

### Cross-country

#### THE BASICS

Cross-country skiing is one of the original Winter Olympic sports, on the program since the 1924 Chamonix Games. Only two men's events were held then, though; now it's a total of 10 men's and women's races—ranging from the explosive individual sprint to the grueling endurance test of the men's 50-kilometer race. Events are held in either the classical style or freestyle depending on the format, with the skiathlon a combination of both.

#### STARS TO WATCH

Norway usually dominates the cross-country skiing events, and its two biggest stars are Petter Northug and Marit Björgen. Northug has struggled with illness this season, however, and his form is in question. Björgen won three golds in Vancouver in 2010 and could well repeat that feat in Sochi if she again gets the better of main rival Justyna Kowalczyk of Poland. Three-time

overall World Cup winner Dario Cologna has only recently returned from an ankle injury but should still be a contender.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

The most successful Winter Olympian of all time was a cross-country skier. Bjørn Dæhlie of Norway won eight Olympic gold medals between 1992 and 1998, along with four silvers. He nearly won a ninth gold, but surprisingly lost a sprint finish to Silvio Fauner of Italy in the men's 4x10-kilometer relay at the 1994 Lillehammer Games, stunning the home crowd.

### Curling

#### THE BASICS

Two gold medals will be awarded, one for men and one for women. Ten teams are in both tournaments. They all play each other once in the round-robin stage, with four advancing to the semifinals.

#### STARS TO WATCH

Margaretha Sigfridsson of Sweden and Eve Muirhead of Britain have been engaged in a battle for supremacy in women's curling for the past 12 months. Muirhead is the world champion and Sigfridsson the European champion—and the Olympics can be viewed as the decider. Brad Jacobs is the star attraction in men's curling, although the spotlight is often stolen by the Norwegian team, with its funky wardrobe.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

Canada, the stronghold of world curling, has won a medal in every men's and women's tournament since the sport returned to the Olympic program in 1998.

### Figure skating

#### THE BASICS

To the familiar medal events of men's and

women's singles, pairs and ice dance, the IOC is adding a team competition. Ten countries will take part, combining the scores of their entries in the four disciplines.

#### STARS TO WATCH



Kim

Yuna Kim of South Korea seeks to repeat—she'll be only the third woman to win two straight gold medals. A foot injury forced her out of the Grand Prix series, though. Three-time world champion Patrick Chan is the favorite on the men's side, but was upset by

Yuzuru Hanyu of Japan at the Grand Prix Final.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

Russian or Soviet skaters have won seven of the 10 gold medals in the event, but Canadian ice dancers Tessa Virtue and Scott Moir will be on hand to defend their titles.

### Freestyle skiing

#### THE BASICS

There are the old-school events—moguls and aerials—and the newer ones—halfpipe and slopestyle. There's also skicross. Moguls are judged on a skier's ability to get down the bumps quickly and smoothly, while also taking off for two jumps that each count for 12.5 percent of the score. Aerials skiers pack multiple flips and twists into a jump that sends them soaring up to 50 feet off a steeply angled ramp. Ski halfpipe and slopestyle are new events, though they'll look very much like the snowboard version.

#### STARS TO WATCH

Defending moguls champion Alex Bilodeau's toughest competition could come from Canadian teammate Mikael Kingsbury. Hannah Kearney of the United States is the defending women's champion. Victor Oehling Norberg of Sweden is a consistent top-10 finisher in skicross but still looking for that first victory of the season.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

Freestyle skiing dates back more than 100 years with records of skiers performing somersaults on skis at the start of the 20th century in Norway, Italy and Austria. The first professional competitions were in 1971, and it entered the Olympic program in 1992.

### Men's hockey

#### THE BASICS

About 150 jetlagged NHL players join their European counterparts in a frenetic 12-game, 12-day tournament for hockey supremacy. Nobody has time for practice or team-building with three quick opening-round games before the knockout portion begins, but Canada, Russia, Sweden, Finland and the United States all have their eyes on gold.

#### STARS TO WATCH

Reigning NHL MVP Alex Ovechkin and fellow stars Evgeni Malkin and Pavel Datsyuk are under extraordinary home-country pressure to lead the Russians to their first gold medals since the United Team's 1992 win in Albertville. Pittsburgh's Sidney Crosby also is back for more Olympic magic after scoring the gold-winning overtime goal in Vancouver.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

The NHL stars are back for their fifth consecutive Olympics since Nagano, but this might be your last chance to see them on the podium for a while. NHL owners are making serious noise about keeping the league in session in 2018 during the Pyeongchang Olympics, citing the time difference to South Korea and lost revenue.

—The Associated Press



# OLYMPICS

## CAPSULES BY SPORT



MICHAEL SOHN/AP

American Erin Hamlin does a training run on the Olympics luge track in Krasnaya Polyana, Russia, on Tuesday.

### Women's hockey

#### THE BASICS

In order to boost competition in a sport that has been dominated by Canada and the United States, the Olympic women's hockey format was changed this year. The round-robin features a guaranteed grudge match between the North Americans, and a chance for them to earn a bye through to the semifinals.

#### STARS TO WATCH

Finland goalie Noora Raty was 41-0 at the University of Minnesota, leading her team to a second straight college championship. Hayley Wickenheiser of Canada is going for her fourth gold medal, and she is already the leading scorer in Olympic women's hockey history with 16 goals and 29 assists; she also won a silver medal when the Americans won the gold in the sport's inaugural Winter Games in 1998.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

U.S. forward Amanda Kessel is the sister of Toronto Maple Leafs star Phil Kessel, who will be in Sochi for the American men's team.

### Luge

#### THE BASICS

Sliders race feet-first down the track, sometimes going as fast as 90 mph, though the speeds should be a bit lower at the Sochi Olympics. Steering is done by subtle shifts of the body, and the start is critical. Lugers wear gloves with tiny spikes attached to the finger pads, using them to dig into the ice to gain momentum, before settling into position for the ride.

#### STARS TO WATCH

Germany, Germany, Germany. Felix Loch is the reigning Olympic champion and is favored to repeat in the men's race, and teammate Natalie Geisenberger has been nearly unbeatable on the World Cup circuit to earn her Sochi-fourth status. The Germans also dominate in doubles luge.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

The Olympic luge program is growing in Sochi with the addition of a team relay. One man, one

woman and one doubles team will compose each nation's team, and they'll go one after another — with one slider slapping a pad to trigger the clock and tell the next teammate it's time to start their run.

### Nordic combined

#### THE BASICS

With ski jumping and cross-country skiing, it's the last male-only sport at the Winter Olympics. Three gold medals will be awarded, off the normal and large hills with 10-kilometer ski races for each, and a team event from the large hill which includes a 4x5-kilometer cross-country race.

#### STARS TO WATCH

Eric Frenzel of Germany comes into Sochi with a big lead in the World Cup standings, having also won the Nordic Combined Triple in January, a new format that added the results of three competitions on one weekend. The Americans have a strong team, with 2010 individual large hill gold medalist and team silver medalist Billy Demong back, and 37-year-old Todd Lodwick competing in his sixth Olympics.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

The starting places in the cross-country race are determined by the finishes in the ski jump competition, with generally a 10-point lead in jumping providing a one-minute start in the ski race.

### Skeleton

#### THE BASICS

Sometimes called "headfirst luge," but it really has hardly anything in common with the feet-first

racing sport. The sleds are simple, with racers usually grabbing a handle with one arm as they get off running at the start. They then flop onto the sled and have their chin just barely off the surface of the ice as they speed down the chute.

#### STARS TO WATCH

Martins Dukurs of Latvia is a huge favorite to win the men's title. In the women's race, the gold-medal battle figures to come down to Noelle Pikus-Pace of the U.S. and Lizzy Yarnold of Britain. Dukurs' top competition might be his own brother, Tomass. Pikus-Pace was fourth in Vancouver.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

Skiing has roots in the 1800s and was in the Olympic program in 1928, then again in 1948. But it wasn't back as a medal sport until 2002, and now attracts sliders from nations that don't even have home tracks on which to train.

### Ski jumping

#### THE BASICS

Women will compete for the first time in a sport the men have had to themselves since 1924. Four gold medals will be awarded overall, the large hill, the normal hill and a team event for the men. The women will compete only on the normal hill.

#### STARS TO WATCH

"Kid Ballerina" Sara Takahashi of Japan, who says her ballet training helps her maintain balance during jumps, is the women's favorite. Her biggest competitors are American teenager Sarah Hendrickson, the world champion who is coming off right knee surgery in August, and Lindsey Van, the sport's first world champion and Hendrickson's teammate.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

The International Olympic Committee fought for years to keep women from ski jumping at the Olympics, with suggestions their event wasn't competitive enough and that their bodies weren't strong enough to take the strain of jumps, affecting their ability to have children.

### Snowboarding

#### THE BASICS

Five events: Halfpipe, snowboardcross, parallel giant slalom and two new ones — slopestyle and parallel slalom. Slopestyle is a ride down a hill with steeply angled jumps, rails and little bumps called "jibs." Parallel slalom is racing — a shortened version of parallel giant slalom event that's been on the program since snowboarding was introduced in 1998.

#### STARS TO WATCH

A certain rider named Shaun White, who is going for his third straight halfpipe gold and trying to win in slopestyle, as well. Another rider to watch will be Torah Bright of Australia, the defending Olympic halfpipe champion who will compete in halfpipe, slopestyle and snowboardcross.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

Mark McMorris of Canada is largely considered White's top challenger in slopestyle but he broke a rib competing in the Winter X Games.

### Long track speedskating

#### THE BASICS

All races are held in pairs using two lanes on the track. At the back straightaway, the skaters switch lanes, allowing them both to cover the same distance per lap. When both skaters emerge from the corner at the same time, the skater in the inside lane has to let the outer lane pass in front of them. The men and women each compete in five individual events, and the team pursuit.

#### STARS TO WATCH

Shani Davis of the United States will try to become the first male skater to win the same event at three straight Olympics in the 1,000 meters. Sven Kramer of the Netherlands is looking for redemption in the 10,000, having lost a gold medal four years ago in Vancouver after being disqualified when his coach directed him to the wrong lane during the race. On the women's side, Ireen Wust of the Netherlands is a favorite to medal in the 1,500 and 3,000. Claudia Pechstein of Germany will turn 42 during the Olympics, her sixth. She owns nine career medals and will try for a 10th in the 5,000.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

The clap skate revolutionized the sport in the mid-1990s, helping lower world records considerably. The skates are hinged to the front of the boot and detach from the heel, allowing a more natural range of movement. The blades are about 1 millimeter thick and come in lengths from 13 to 18 centimeters.

### Short track speedskating

#### THE BASICS

Usually between four and six skaters compete on an oval ice rink using a mass start. Men and women compete in the same events: 500 meters, 1,000, 1,500, and the relays (3,000 for women and 5,000 for men). It's often called roller derby on ice and there are several rules that, if broken, result in disqualification.

#### STARS TO WATCH

Viktor Ahn is a medal favorite in all three individual men's events. Born Ahn Hyun-soo in South Korea, Ahn became a Russian citizen in 2011. Wang Meng, China's most decorated Winter Olympian, is out with a broken ankle on the women's side. South Korea's women's team could dominate, led by Shim Suk-hee.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

The most common reason for disqualification is impeding, which involves pushing, blocking or otherwise causing an impediment for another skater.

# OLYMPICS

## PREVIEWS: 5 THINGS TO KNOW

### Luge

By TOM WITHERS  
The Associated Press

Felix Loch is, well, nearly a lock to win Olympic gold again.

The German will defend his luge title in Sochi against a strong field he has outpaced on the World Cup circuit this season.

He won his first Olympic gold at age 20 and could join legendary countryman Georg Hackl as the sport's only three-time champion. And 40-year-old Armin Zoeggeler of Italy, gold medalist in 2006 and 2010, will try to become the first Olympian to win six medals at six Winter Games.

Here are five other things to know about the 2014 Sochi luge competition:

**1 Tamer track:** In response to safety concerns, the Sanki track was designed with three "uphill" sections that will keep speeds at a reasonable level. Although the descent may not be as exhilarating for racers, the track is challenging and will force athletes to be precise or risk losing time.

"It's nothing too crazy," American doubles luger Jason Terdiman said of the inclines. "But you can feel it slow you down."

**2 Relay ride:** No, racers won't be passing a baton at 80 mph, but the relay will require teamwork, timing and accuracy.

A female slider will start, and when she reaches the end of the course, she must rise out of her sled and slap a pad hanging over the finish line. That will open the gate up top for the male slider, who after finishing must slap the pad to send the men's doubles team down the track.

The relay has been a big hit with fans during World Cup events.

**3 Powerhouse program:** Germany's dominance in luge will undoubtedly continue after winning all three disciplines this season.

Natalie Geisenberger, a bronze medalist in Vancouver, won six straight World Cup events and seven of the first eight this season in capturing her second straight championship. She's the one to beat.

In women's luge, Germany has won the past four Olympic golds, 10 of the last 12 medals awarded and 29 of a possible 36 since the 1964 Innsbruck Games.

Germany's Tobias Wendl and Tobias Arlt won the World Cup doubles championship this season and are favored to win gold in Sochi.

**4 Young Americans:** The U.S. team has undergone a major makeover with only three athletes — Erin Hamlin, Chris Mazdzer and Christian Niccum — back from the 2010 team.

The Americans have naïveté on their side, but nothing can replace experience, especially inside the Olympic rings. At only 27, Hamlin is the sage veteran among the woman sliders with Summer Britcher (19) and Kate Hanley (21).

On the men's singles side, the 25-year-old Mazdzer is joined on the American team by first-time U.S. Olympians Tucker West, 18, and 19-year-old Aidan Kelly.

**5 Back again:** Erin Hamlin always dreamed of skidding into the finish area, stepping off her luge and bathing in Olympic glory. A gold medal hanging from her neck was all she ever wanted.

Vancouver was where it was supposed to happen. She wasn't close.

Instead, Hamlin's experience four years ago in Whistler left the U.S. slider empty-handed and dejected after she placed a disappointing 16th.

"There was no way that was going to be the way I was going to go out," the 2009 world champion said.



JONATHAN HAYWARD, THE CANADIAN PRESS/AP

Canada skip Brad Jacobs, center, makes a shot as second, E.J. Harnden, right, and lead Ryan Harnden sweep during the world championships last April. After a breakthrough year in 2013, Jacobs heads to Sochi as the big favorite for the gold medal.

### Men's curling

By STEVE DOUGLAS  
The Associated Press

With the red carpets, limousines and non-stop media glare, Brad Jacobs is discovering just what it means to be the top curler in Canada.

After a breakthrough year in 2013 in which his rink became Canadian champion before romping through the Olympic trials, Jacobs heads to the Sochi Games as the big favorite for the gold medal.

And be sure of one thing — curling-mad Canada expects gold.

"We have a special team right now," Jacobs said, "and we really feel we are just getting started."

There are nine teams looking to stop the Canadians from completing the hat trick.

Norway, the 2010 finalist and famous across the world for wearing funky pants since those Vancouver Games, should again challenge. Sweden, the reigning world champion, is seeking its first men's Olympic curling medal and to emulate the success of the country's women's team, which won gold in 2006 and 2010.

Britain, Denmark, China, Switzerland, Russia, the United States and Germany complete the lineup.

Here are five things to know about the men's curling tournament:

**1 A family affair:** Jacobs has spent holidays and vacations with cousins Ryan and E.J. Harnden. Now, he'll try to win Olympic gold with them.

Since 2008, Team Jacobs has contained three members of the same family, who all hail from Sault Ste. Marie in northern Ontario. No wonder there's such a good camaraderie in the rink during matches.

Ryan Fry is the fourth member of the team looking to match the gold-medal exploits of Brad Gushue in 2006 and Kevin Martin in 2010.

**2 Take Norway seriously:** There's much more to the Norway team than their crazy pants. They are actually seriously good curlers.

Thomas Ulsrud, Torger Nergard, Christoffer Svae and Havard Vad Petersen have been playing together since 2008 and are two-time European champions and for-

mer world silver medalists. There's also the Olympic silver they won in 2010 — although that was overshadowed by the sensation created by the pants they wore.

"I think most people in Norway think we won the gold last time," Svae said. "They are not sure what kind of medal we got because of what happened with the pants."

For Sochi, the Norwegians will be equipped with as many as 10 newly designed pairs of pants, most of them featuring the red, white and blue of their country's flag.

**3 Prime time for Sweden:** After spending years in the shadow of their country's women's team, Sweden's male curlers are starting to grab their own share of the headlines.

Whereas the women have won gold at the past two Olympics, the men haven't made it onto the podium since curling returned to the Winter Games program in Nagano.

In Sochi, however, they will be one of their nation's top gold-medal hopes after ending Canada's three-year stranglehold on the world championship title by winning the 2013 tournament.

**4 Third chance:** In 2006, he helped Team USA win a bronze medal.

In 2010, he was dropped part-way through the tournament for poor form as the Americans finished last. So as he heads into his third straight Olympics, which John Shuster will see in Sochi?

From a U.S. point of view, hopefully the Shuster that led his rink to a stunning 11-1 win over Peter Fenson in just four ends in the final game of the U.S. Olympic trials. Or the Shuster that recovered from two early losses in the Olympic qualification tournament in Germany in December to win five games in a row and make it to Sochi.

**5 Russia's debut:** Russia will be making its debut in the men's Olympic curling tournament after making the 10-team lineup courtesy of a host-nation place.

The Russians finished 10th out of 12 in their first appearance at a world championship last year in Canada. Andrei Drozdov is once again the team's skip.

### Women's curling

By STEVE DOUGLAS  
The Associated Press

After winning curling gold at the last two Olympics, Anette Norberg will again be calling the shots for Sweden at the Sochi Games.

There's a catch: She'll be in a TV commentary booth rather than out on the ice.

With Norberg ending her illustrious curling career last year at 46, the Swedes have a new skip at the Olympics for the first time since 2006 — Margaretha Sigfridsson.

The transition so far has been smooth. Sigfridsson is the current European champion and her rink has won silver at the last two world championships.

Sigfridsson will have serious competition as she looks to take over from Norberg as curling's latest "Ice Queen."

Here are five things to know about the women's tournament:

**1 The favorites:** They met in the world championship final in March, the European championship final in November and are favored to reach the Olympic final on Feb. 20.

It's 1-1 between Eve Muirhead and Margaretha Sigfridsson in major finals over the past 10 months — Sweden won the Europeans and Scotland won the worlds — so the Olympics could be the decider.

They will be able to size each other up immediately in Sochi after Sweden was drawn to play Britain in the first round-robin session on Feb. 10. Both skips will be looking to make a statement ahead of a possible rematch 10 days later.

**2 The bagpipe-playing curler:** Could Muirhead be any more Scottish?

She plays the bagpipes (a junior champion). She loves a round of golf (once played off scratch and had golf scholarship offers in the U.S.). And she also has curling in her blood (her father, Gordon, was a 1999 world champion).

Muirhead has already had one attempt at Olympic gold, in Vancouver in 2010 when Britain arrived as one of the favorites and left after failing to advance out of the round-robin stage. Call that a trial run — Muirhead was only 19.

**3 Getting her chance:** Jennifer Jones has been Canada's top-ranked skip since 2005, but the chance to represent her curling-mad country at the Olympics has always eluded her until now.

After flopping in the Olympic trials in 2005 and 2009, Jones finally got it right last year with a victory over Sherry Middaugh in the final.

Canada's women have made the podium at all four Olympics since curling returned to the program in 1998.

**4 From Calgary to Sochi:** Twenty-five years after her first appearance at the Olympics, United States skip Erika Brown is preparing to make her last.

She took time off from school in 1988 to compete at the Calgary Games as a 15-year-old, when curling was just a demonstration sport, and was then part of the U.S. team that failed to get past the round-robin stage in Nagano in 1998.

At 40, she says this is her final shot at winning the Olympics.

**5 Emerging markets:** For the ambitious, ever-growing World Curling Federation, it was a major result to see China and Japan come through the Olympic qualifying event and take their places in the women's tournament.

They are two rapidly emerging markets of a sport whose strongholds have long been Canada, Scotland and the Scandinavian countries.

# OLYMPICS

## FIGURE SKATING PREVIEW

# Japan, Canada bring solid teams to Sochi

By BARRY WILNER

The Associated Press

**S**outh Korea's Queen Yuna and America's "Marlie" should be the big headlines at the Winter Olympics. Otherwise, there's likely not much on the Russian ice for their countries.

Defending champion Yuna Kim and U.S. ice dancers Meryl Davis and Charlie White — known as Marlie — are heavy favorites for the Sochi Games. They likely will be the only medalists for their nations, too.

Figure skating power lies in Japan and Canada these days, even though it's entirely possible neither nation will win gold in any of the standard events: men's and women's singles, pairs, ice dance.

However, the new team event is another Sochi story.

Canada is loaded in all four disciplines, from three-time men's world champion Patrick Chan to defending Olympic dance champions Tessa Virtue and Scott Moir. Japan is equally strong in the individual competitions, with 2010 women's silver medalist Mao Asada and a trio of potential men's contenders, including Vancouver Games bronze winner Daisuke Takahashi.

The Americans, led by two-time dance world champs Davis and White, the 2010 Olympic silver medalists, are talking bravely about grabbing team gold. But they'll need to overcome a weakness in pairs and two unpredictable men, Jeremy Abbott and Jason Brown, to get on the podium.

But the Americans' best shot for gold clearly lies with the dancing feet of Davis and White. And if they don't get it, look for Virtue and Moir — who train in the same Michigan rink with Davis and White — to stand atop the medals stand again. Ice dance appears to be a two-couple gig.

Like Virtue and Moir, Kim returns to defend her title. Unlike the Canadians, she took a long hiatus from competition following her mesmerizing performances in Vancouver.

Kim returned last season and won the world title with marks almost as good as in her record-setting Vancouver showing, winning by 20 points. She's trying to be only the third woman (Katarina Witt and Sonja Henie) to win successive Olympic figure skating championships, but had been plagued by a foot injury that forced her out of the Grand Prix series.

Her rivalry with Asada has been one-sided, but Asada is a more seasoned skater now. She also had a triple axel in her rep-

ertoire, and will need to nail it every time she tries it to keep up with a healthy Kim.

American champion Gracie Gold, 18, seems more likely to push for the podium in 2018, but youthful winners are common at the Games. Kim was 19 when she won in Vancouver.

Chan is the odds-on choice among the men, trying for Canada's first gold medal in the Olympics. No, Brian Orser, Kurt Browning and Elvis Stojko didn't manage it.

That puts extreme pressure on Chan, who was upset at the Grand Prix Final by Japan's Yuzuru Hanyu, albeit by less than a point.

He also will be tested by Denis Ten of Kazakhstan and Javier Fernandez of Spain.

Chan wasn't sensational in winning his seventh straight Canadian title.

"If I look back in the history books, Jamie Salo and David Pelletier didn't have a great national before the Salt Lake City Games," he said, noting that they

won pairs in the midst of a judging scandal that led to the current scoring system. "So it's just that last piece of the puzzle that I need to fit in and get everything working smoothly."

Smooth and stunning would be the description for the top pair, Russia's Tatiana Volosozhar and Maxim Trankov. The world champions are first from European championship victory where their elegance and athleticism were amply displayed.

But they hardly are shoosins against Germany's Aliona Savchenko and Robin Szolkowy, the current Grand Prix champs, and Chinese veterans Pang Qing and Tong Jian.

AP Sports Writers Rachel Cohen and Jimmy Golden contributed to this story.



MARK BAKER/AP

Canada's Patrick Chan is the three-time men's world champion and will be favored to win the gold medal in men's singles.



BIIZUYEHU TESFAYE/AP Images for Puffs

Americans Meryl Davis and Charlie White are expected to medal in ice dancing, but to get gold they'll likely have to outperform defending Olympic champions Tessa Virtue and Scott Moir of Canada.

## Name: Spotlight, American hopes on Gold after US Championships

### FROM BACK PAGE

of people. Who is going to leave everything out on the ice? The Olympics is about, "This is what I have, go ahead and beat it."

Gold gave everything she had at the national championships in edging 15-year-old Polina Edmunds and 2010 Olympic fourth-place finisher Mirai Nagasu. But Nagasu was left off the team for the top American skater, Ashley Wagner, who struggled in Boston but was given a spot because of her strong international record.

While Wagner rebuts, Gold has taken

over the spotlight. Unlike the days of Tonya and Nancy and its aftermath, when figure skating was front and center even in non-Olympic years, the sport rarely leaps into the limelight now. But with the Sochi Games about to kick off, people are paying attention to the lutz-and-loop crowd.

In the United States, that usually means focusing on the top woman. Although Wagner could wind up being that skater — Lysacek didn't win the U.S. championships in 2010 before taking the Vancouver title — Gold is in the forefront heading toward Thursday's start of the team event.

"Going to nationals, I was not going to just participate, but to compete, going for the top spot, going for gold," she said. "I dedicated myself to that moment, and I was able to hit it pretty well, and I am more than happy with that."

"I think the year is 2014 and it's a new Gracie. With Frank every day after I am done jumping, we just take time to appreciate the nuances and the music and connecting with the audience and judges and have that warmth with my skating, the things that light up the rink."

Gold has leaped onto the scene the past

two years. She and Wagner finished high enough at the 2013 world championships to ensure the American women would have a maximum three spots in the Sochi field. She didn't do much in the Grand Prix series, but came on spectacularly at nationals.

Now, it's on to the Olympics. "I remember a couple of years ago, I was watching my role models in the Olympics," Gold said. "And now to be that role model, it's so wonderful. You just remember why you do what you do. The passion in your sport is so important."



## SPORTS

## WINTER OLYMPICS

What's in  
a name?

## It could be Gold for Gracie

By BARRY WILNER  
The Associated Press

**T**he big names in women's figure skating at the Sochi Olympics are Yuna Kim and Mao Asada. The best name might belong to the American champion, Gracie Gold.

It certainly will be the most memorable if she can match her moniker by standing atop the podium in a few weeks.

Gold won her first national championship in January in Boston with two superb programs. Working with Frank Carroll, who coached Evan Lysacek to the men's title four years ago, Gold has improved exponentially this season.

She will need to continue that rapid growth at the Games, because

**Inside:**

■ Capsules, Pages 28-29

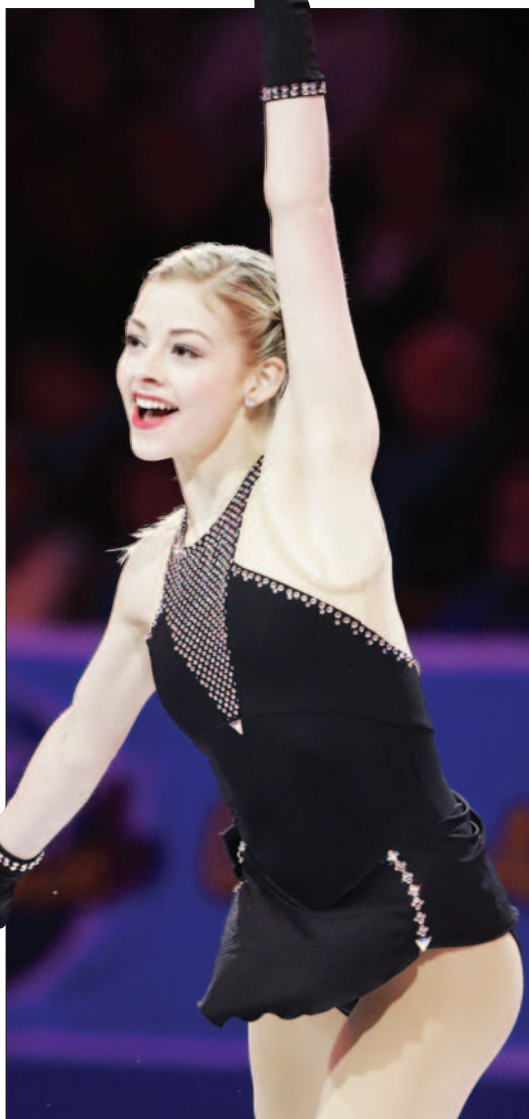
■ Five things to know about luge, curling events, Page 30

defending champion Kim and silver medalist Asada are imposing opponents.

"There are so many different variables, and the women's field is so good this year," the 18-year-old Gold said. "Yuna Kim and Asada and then all the new kids on the block."

"I think the U.S. definitely has a strong team for the team event, definitely a chance to medal, if not win. I definitely think in singles I have a chance to medal; so do a lot

**SEE NAME ON PAGE 31**



ELISE AMENDOLA, LEFT, AND STEVEN SENNE, ABOVE/AP

Top American skater Ashley Wagner, left, fell during the women's free skate at the U.S. Championships in Boston on Jan. 11, opening the door for 18-year-old Gracie Gold, above, to win the competition and go into the Olympics on a high note.

Seahawks begin working on title defense

**NFL, Page 27**

No. 1 Orange down Irish, stay unbeaten

**College basketball, Page 26**

